

# **CHARACTERISTICS OF FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLDS SUMMER 1989**

**June 1991**

## **PREFACE:**

This report was prepared by Nancy Heiser of Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis and Evaluation. Many individuals made important contributions to the report. The author thanks Suzanne Smolkin for generating the statistics presented in the report, and Carrie Spencer for developing the 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample file; Pat Doyle and Harold Beebout for providing guidance and reviewing the report; Robert Cohen and Esther Miller for providing technical support; Thomas Good, for editing the report; and Sheana Thomas-Carter and Robert Skinner for preparing the manuscript. The author also thanks Jenny Genser of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service for providing guidance and program information.

This work was prepared as one task of a competitively awarded contract; the total amount of the contract is \$1,812,081.

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FNS Contract Number:	53-3198-0-22

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Food Stamp Program (FSP) increases the purchasing power of low-income households to enable them to acquire and maintain nutritious diets. The FSP is administered nationally by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). Based on FSP household data collected by FNS for quality control purposes, this report presents the characteristics of FSP households nationwide in summer (July and August) 1989, as well as State-specific characteristics of FSP households in fiscal year 1989. The results are summarized below.

### **FSP Participation and Costs**

In summer 1989, the FSP served an average of 18.7 million persons living in 7.2 million households per month. This level of participation represents a slight increase over the FSP participation levels in summer 1988. FSP costs totalled \$12.9 billion, of which \$11.7 billion were for FSP benefits. The average monthly food stamp benefit per household was \$129.

### **Characteristics of FSP Participants and Households**

Almost half of all FSP participants were children, 40 percent were nonelderly adults, and 8 percent were elderly persons. Most of the children were school-age, and most of the adults were women.

The majority of the households served by the FSP in summer 1989 lived in poverty and contained children or elderly or disabled persons. Almost all (92 percent) of the FSP households lived in poverty according to official Federal government poverty guidelines. FSP benefits were targeted to poorer households--while the gross income of 38 percent of all households was less than 51 percent of the poverty line, they received 56 percent of all benefits. If the value of food stamps is included as income, 6 percent of all FSP households would move above the poverty line, and 24 percent would move from below to above 50 percent of the poverty line.

Of all FSP households, 83 percent contained either a child or an elderly or disabled person, and these households received 89 percent of all benefits. Households with children received a relatively large average monthly food stamp benefit (\$174), due to their relatively large average household size (3.5 persons). Most of the FSP households with children were single-parent households that also received support from Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). Elderly FSP participants tended to live alone, and they received relatively small food stamp benefits (an average of \$52 per month) due to their smaller household size.

### **Characteristics of FSP Households by State**

The characteristics of FSP households vary considerably by State. In fiscal year 1989, a relatively large percentage of FSP households were located in California, New York, and Texas. FSP households in California received a relatively low average monthly FSP benefit, reflecting higher

monthly incomes. FSP households in Texas received a relatively high FSP benefit, reflecting lower incomes and larger households.

The distribution of FSP households that contain elderly persons and children also varied by State. In summer 1989, States in which a relatively high percentage of FSP households contained elderly persons were concentrated in the South. States in which a high percentage of FSP households contained children were concentrated in the West. FSP households with earners were concentrated in the West, the Midwest, and the South. Finally, households headed by black persons were concentrated in the Southeast, and households headed by Hispanic persons were concentrated in the Southern and Southwestern regions of the United States.

## CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

The Food Stamp Program (FSP) is a central component of America's overall system that provides assistance to low-income households. The major purpose of the FSP is "to permit low-income households to obtain a more nutritious diet . . . by increasing their purchasing power" (The Food Stamp Act of 1977, PL 95-113). The FSP is the largest of the 13 different domestic nutrition assistance programs administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). During fiscal year 1989, the FSP served approximately 18.8 million persons in an average month at a total annual cost of \$12.9 billion.

The FSP is distinct from other income maintenance programs. It is the only program that provides assistance nationwide to essentially all financially needy households without imposing nonfinancial categorical criteria, such as whether households contain children or elderly persons. The FSP is also unique in that it provides benefits in the form of coupons. Food stamp coupons can be redeemed for food in any of over 200,000 authorized stores across the nation.

The Federal government and State and local governments share the costs and administration of the FSP. The U.S. Congress authorizes the FSP, while the USDA establishes FSP regulations pursuant to the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended. FNS administers the FSP nationally, and State and local welfare agencies operate the FSP locally. The Federal government fully funds the benefits of the FSP. Administrative costs are shared by the cooperating agencies, with FNS usually paying 50 percent of the costs.

Since food stamps are available to all persons who meet the income and resource standards set by the Congress, the FSP serves a broad spectrum of needy persons. Based on FSP household data, which FNS periodically collects for quality control review purposes, FNS produces a series of reports (see appendix J) which present FSP household characteristics to enhance our understanding of those served by the FSP. This report presents a picture of households and individuals participating in the summer of 1989.

Chapter 2 provides an overview of the FSP and the regulations used to determine eligibility and food stamp benefits, as well as the factors that affect program participation and costs, such as legislative changes and trends in the national economy. Chapter 3 describes the characteristics of FSP households and participants in summer 1989. Chapter 4 discusses the characteristics of FSP households in each State in fiscal year 1989. The appendixes include supplemental tables, detailed tabulations of household characteristics for the nation and by State, and a brief description of the sample design and the sampling error associated with the estimates.



## CHAPTER 2: AN OVERVIEW OF THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

The characteristics of FSP households and the level of FSP participation change over time in response to economic and demographic trends and to legislative changes in eligibility requirements. This chapter first reviews the FSP in summer 1989 (July and August) and how it differed from the FSP in summer 1988 (July and August). It then summarizes costs and participation and their relationship to the economy in fiscal year 1989.

### PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, establishes uniform national eligibility standards for the FSP and defines the basic FSP unit, the "household." The eligibility criteria include a resource limit, gross and net income limits, and various nonfinancial criteria. Some exceptions to these uniform standards exist for certain areas, such as Alaska and Hawaii, and for certain individuals, such as elderly persons (age 60 and over) and disabled persons. Below, we discuss the definition of a household, eligibility criteria, the FSP benefit computation, and application and issuance procedures.

#### The Household

In general, individuals who live in a residential unit and purchase and prepare food together constitute a food stamp household, and the income and assets of each household member are aggregated to determine eligibility and benefits. Individuals who live together in a residential unit but do not purchase and prepare food with other individuals can apply as separate household units; thus, their income and assets are considered separately in eligibility and benefit determinations. Special provisions allow elderly and disabled persons who cannot prepare and purchase food due to a substantial disability to apply as a separate household; they can apply as a separate household as long as the gross monthly income of the remainder of their residential unit is less than 165 percent of the official Federal poverty guidelines.<sup>1</sup> Groups that are always considered one household, regardless of their food purchasing and preparation arrangements, include the following: married couples, parents and their minor children, childless individuals living with their nonelderly parents, and childless nonelderly individuals living with their nonelderly siblings.

#### Income Eligibility Standards

Monthly income is the most important determinant of a household's FSP eligibility. The majority of households that apply for food stamps must meet two income eligibility standards--a gross income standard and a net income standard. As defined in the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, gross income includes most cash income (with the exception of specific types of income such as loans) and excludes most noncash income, or in-kind benefits.

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<sup>1</sup>Federal poverty guidelines are established by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget and updated annually by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

First, the gross monthly income of all households that do not contain an elderly or disabled member must be at or below 130 percent of the poverty line (\$1,263 for a family of four in the Continental United States in fiscal year 1989). Households that contain elderly and disabled members are not subject to the gross income test. Second, households which meet the gross income eligibility standard must then meet a net income eligibility standard, defined as net monthly income at or below 100 percent of the poverty line (\$971 for a family of four in the Continental United States in fiscal year 1989). Net income is determined by subtracting deductions permitted under the FSP from monthly gross income. Both the gross and net income eligibility standards are established for various household sizes (see appendixes C and D). Households are exempt from these income tests, as well as the asset test, if all members of a household receive Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

The FSP permits the following deductions from a household's gross monthly income to arrive at the net monthly income:<sup>2</sup>

- **Standard Deduction.** All households automatically receive a standard deduction, equal to \$106 in the 48 contiguous States and the District of Columbia in fiscal year 1989. This standard deduction is a constant amount and varies by area only to reflect price differences between the Continental United States and outlying States and Territories (see appendix E), not household size or income. The standard deduction amounts are adjusted annually to reflect changes in the cost of living.
- **Earned Income Deduction.** Households with earnings receive an earned income deduction equal to 20 percent of the combined earnings of household members.
- **Dependent Care Deduction.** Households with dependents receive a dependent care deduction for expenses involved in caring for children and other dependents while household members work or seek employment. The maximum dependent care deduction for households with dependents was \$160 per dependent per month in fiscal year 1989.
- **Medical Deduction.** A medical deduction is available only to households that contain elderly or disabled members. These households can deduct all medical costs that exceed \$35 incurred by the elderly or disabled person. Medical expenses reimbursed by insurance or government programs are not deductible. If a household contains more than one disabled or elderly person, then it can deduct the combined medical expenses for those disabled or elderly persons that exceed the elderly or disabled persons's initial \$35 expense.

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<sup>2</sup>There is a distinction between a household's deduction entitlement and the amount actually used to compute food stamp benefits. The entitlement is the deduction that a household would receive on the basis of its earned income and dependent care, shelter, and medical expenses if the total of these allowable deductions was less than its gross income. Because net income cannot be less than zero, households with total deductions greater than their gross incomes could only claim a portion of their deduction entitlement.

- **Excess Shelter Deduction.** All households are entitled to an excess shelter deduction equal to shelter costs (such as rent, mortgage payments, utility bills, property taxes, and insurance) that exceed 50 percent of a household's countable income after all other potential deductions and expenses are subtracted from gross income. This deduction is subject to a limit (see appendix E), except for households that contain elderly or disabled members, which are entitled to subtract the full value of shelter costs that exceed 50 percent of their adjusted income. The limit on the excess shelter deduction for households without elderly or disabled members for fiscal year 1989 was \$170 for the 48 contiguous States and the District of Columbia. This limit is adjusted annually to reflect changes in the cost of housing.

## **Assets**

The second most important determinant of FSP eligibility is a household's resources, or assets. Most households are permitted up to \$2,000 in countable assets. However, households that contain elderly persons are allowed up to \$3,000 in countable assets. Countable assets include cash, assets that can easily be converted into cash (such as money in checking or savings accounts, savings certificates, stocks or bonds, and lump-sum payments) and nonliquid resources. However, selected pieces of property are not counted as assets. Countable assets do not include family homes, or tools of a trade or business property used to earn income. Assets also do not include vehicles used to produce income or transport elderly or disabled persons; vehicles not used for these purposes are counted in the following way: for one vehicle, any fair market value exceeding \$4,500 is counted; for all other vehicles, the higher of either any fair market value exceeding \$4,500 or any equity is counted.

## **Nonfinancial Eligibility Standards**

While the FSP does not impose categorical eligibility standards, there are some specific nonfinancial restrictions. Some restrictions are placed on the participation of aliens, students, strikers, and persons who are institutionalized. Able-bodied food stamp participants are required to register for and accept suitable employment. The following individuals are exempt from this work registration requirement:

- Persons younger than age 16 or older than age 59
- Persons who are physically or mentally disabled
- Caretakers of dependent children younger than age 6 or of incapacitated adults
- Persons who work at least 30 hours per week
- Persons subject to the work requirements of the AFDC program
- Persons who receive unemployment insurance (UI)

- Persons ages 16 and 17 who are not household heads or are attending school
- Participants in drug addiction or alcoholic treatment and rehabilitation programs
- Students enrolled in school at least half-time

Since April 1987, work registrants have been required to participate in State Employment and Training (E&T) programs, which provide work experience, educational programs, and job-search training. States may also exempt pregnant women and persons living in areas where employment and training programs are not available from E&T programs.

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

To apply for food stamps, individuals are required to appear in person at their local food stamp offices. However, elderly and disabled persons and persons who have transportation problems can be interviewed over the telephone or at their homes. All States must allow individuals to apply for food stamps at the same time they apply for AFDC. Also, individuals applying for SSI benefits can apply for food stamps at the same time.

The Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, requires that local offices process applications for food stamps within 30 days after their receipt. However, households without significant income or resources can receive expedited food stamp eligibility verification procedures and acquire food stamp benefits within 5 calendar days after they apply. Those eligible for expedited service include: (1) homeless persons, (2) migrant or seasonal farm workers with assets equal to or less than \$100, (3) households with gross income equal to or less than \$150 or assets equal to or less than \$100, and (4) households with shelter costs that exceed their gross income and assets combined.

FSP participants are required to appear in person at their local food stamp offices periodically for recertification. The certification period varies according to how likely a FSP household's financial circumstances are to change. In summer 1989, an FSP household was certified for food stamps for an average of 10 months.

## **BENEFIT COMPUTATION**

After a household is certified for food stamps, its monthly food stamp benefit is computed on the basis of its net monthly income, the benefit reduction rate, and the maximum food stamp benefit for its household size and location. The maximum benefit to which a household is entitled is based on the June cost of the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) for a family of four, adjusted for different household sizes and geographic areas outside the Continental United States. The cost of the TFP is based on an economical and nutritious diet, adjusted for household size and composition. Maximum benefits are revised annually to reflect changes in the cost of the foods included in the TFP. As provided for in the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, maximum food stamp benefits in summer 1989 were based on 100.65 percent of the TFP for a specified family of four. Thus, in summer 1989, the maximum monthly benefit for a family of four in the continental United States was \$300 (see appendix F).

The benefit reduction rate is the rate at which benefits are reduced for every additional dollar of net income. In summer 1989, the benefit reduction rate was 30 percent, reflecting the assumption that a household is expected to spend 30 percent of its net income on food, and that the FSP will provide the difference between that amount and the maximum benefit. Thus, in summer 1989, benefits were reduced by 30 cents for every additional dollar of net income.

A household's monthly food stamp benefit is computed by subtracting 30 percent of its net income from the maximum benefit. If a household has zero net income, it receives the maximum food stamp benefit. All eligible one- and two-person households are guaranteed a minimum benefit of at least \$10 per month (except during the initial month of participation). For new entrants, benefits are prorated for the first month.

## **FOOD STAMP ISSUANCE**

Local and State food stamp offices use various systems to provide food stamp benefits to FSP participants. The following are the four main methods of issuance:

- **ATP Card System.** An authorization to participate document (the ATP card) is mailed to the participant each month; the participant then exchanges the card for food stamp benefits at an authorized issuance office.
- **Mail System.** State and local offices mail the food stamp benefits directly to the participant.
- **Manual System.** The FSP participant obtains benefits directly from the food stamp office.
- **Electronic Benefit Transfer.** The FSP participant receives a "debit" card, similar to a bank card, which is used when making food purchases at authorized retail stores. The household's monthly benefit is electronically transferred to a bank account created specifically for FSP benefits. When a purchase is made, the amount of the purchase is debited electronically from the household's FSP account.

## **PROGRAM CHANGES SINCE THE PREVIOUS FISCAL YEAR**

In September 1988, Congress passed the Hunger Prevention Act (HPA), whose provisions changed the FSP in several important ways.

### **HPA Provisions That Affect FSP Benefits and Issuance**

The HPA provisions affect FSP benefit computation and issuance in five ways. First, the HPA raised the maximum food stamp benefit to 100.65 percent of the TFP for fiscal year 1989, 102.05 percent for fiscal year 1990, and 103 percent for fiscal year 1991 and thereafter. Second, the HPA expanded the dependent care deduction from \$160 per household to \$160 per dependent. Third, the HPA

affected the computation of countable income for benefits in two ways: (1) Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) payments received in advance are not included as income, and (2) farmers can average income and expenses over 12 months and exclude farmland, equipment, and farm supplies as assets for 1 year after they stop farming. Fourth, the HPA allows households that apply for food stamps after the 15th of the month to receive a combined benefit for the initial month and the next month, rather than a prorated amount for the initial month. Last, the HPA requires that State agencies take actions to prevent improper denials, terminations, or underissuances.

### **HPA Provisions That Affect Application Procedures and Processing**

The HPA provisions affect FSP application and processing procedures in four ways. First, States can deviate from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's application form if they simplify their application procedures. Second, States are required to process applications for food stamps jointly with applications for AFDC and General Assistance (GA). Third, the HPA extends disability status to individuals who receive interim assistance pending the receipt of SSI, Social Security disability payments, or State GA disability payments. Finally, elderly or disabled persons and persons with transportation problems need not apply for food stamps in person; States are permitted to interview them by telephone or in their homes.

### **Other Provisions That Affect the FSP**

The HPA also includes provisions that affect FSP reporting, income verification and quality control procedures, and State E&T and outreach programs. First, the HPA makes monthly reporting optional, but prohibits it for seasonal farmworkers and the homeless. Second, it makes matching Federal funds available for optional outreach activities. Third, it requires that States develop alternatives for verifying recurring medical expenses on a monthly basis. Fourth, the HPA allows FNS to fine stores up to \$20,000 for food stamp trafficking rather than disqualify the store. It also reforms the Quality Control system by including underissuances in the payment error rates, by relaxing the liability threshold, by changing the enhanced funding threshold, by altering the basis for calculating error liabilities, and by streamlining the appeals process. Finally, the HPA allows States to include educational training, requires that they pay for transportation and dependent care, and provides an income exclusion for AFDC JOBS payments for dependent care.

### **FSP COSTS AND PARTICIPATION**

After reaching its historically highest level of 22.6 million persons in March 1983, FSP participation declined steadily as the economy expanded (with the exception of seasonal increases) until fiscal year 1989, when it again began to increase (see figure 2.1). In fiscal year 1989, the FSP served an average of 18.8 million persons per month--a 0.6 percent increase from fiscal year 1988. Similarly, between fiscal years 1988 and 1989, the number of FSP households increased by 2.3 percent.

The increase in FSP participation between fiscal years 1988 and 1989 may have coincided with the beginning of the economic recession evident in 1990. The economic indicators in fiscal year 1989 (see table 2.1) portray the beginning of a downturn in the economy--the rate of inflation increased,

Figure 2.1  
Food Stamp Program participation and the  
number of unemployed workers  
(Average fiscal year quarters 1982 - 1989)

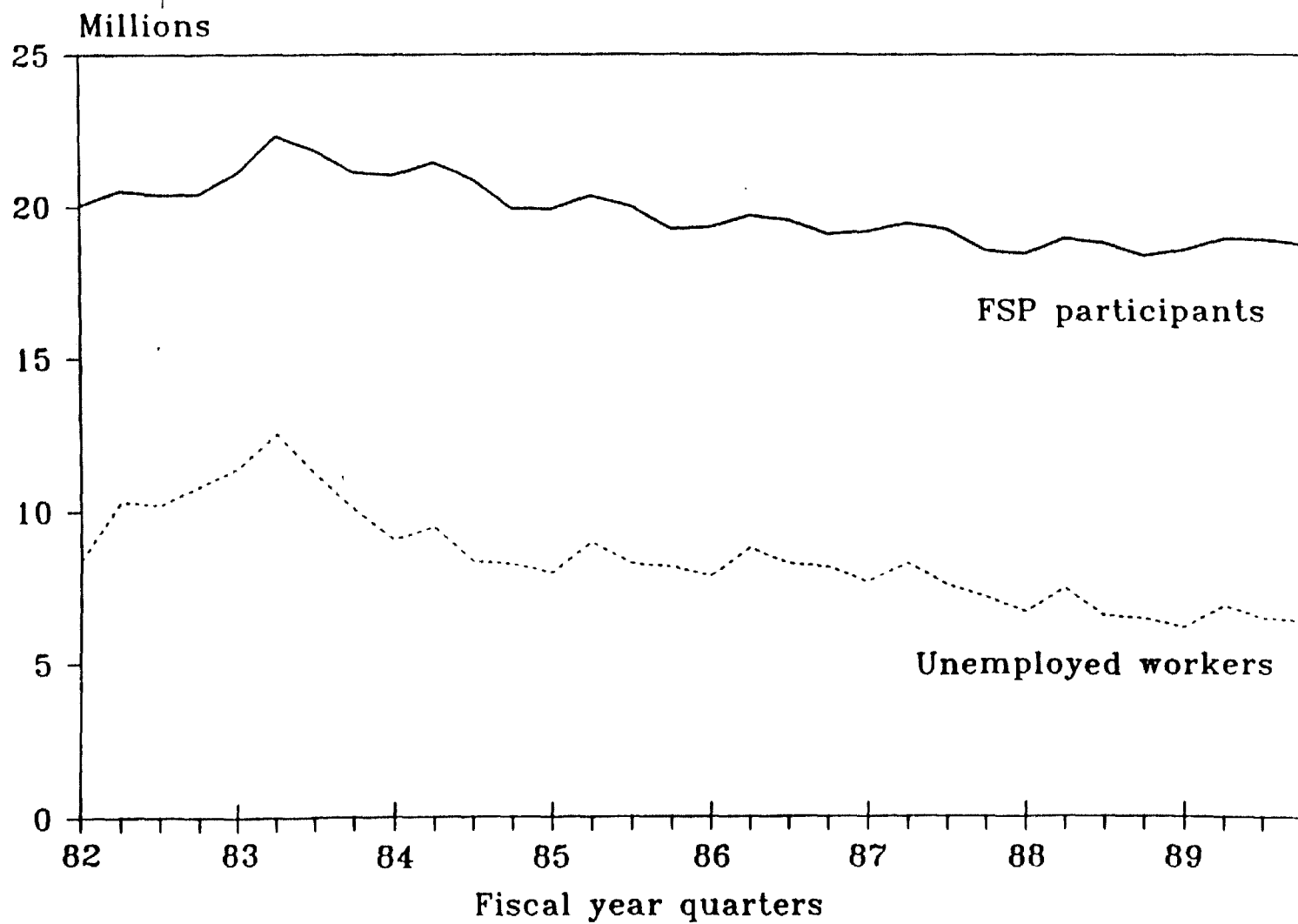


Table 2.1--Major economic indicators, calendar years 1982-1989  
(average annual rates in percent)

Economic Indicator	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
Real GNP increase <sup>a</sup>	-2.5%	3.6%	6.8%	3.4%	2.7%	3.4%	4.5%	2.5%
Productivity increase <sup>b</sup>	-0.7	2.3	2.5	2.0	2.3	1.1	2.2	-0.5
Unemployment rate <sup>c</sup>	9.7	9.6	7.5	7.2	7.0	6.2	5.5	5.3
Inflation rate <sup>d</sup>	6.4	3.9	3.7	3.0	2.6	3.2	3.3	4.1
Interest rates <sup>e</sup>	13.8	12.0	12.7	11.4	9.0	9.4	9.7	9.3
Number of persons below 100 percent of poverty level (in thousands)	34,398	35,303	33,700	33,064	32,370	32,546	31,878	31,487
Percentage of total population	15.0%	15.2%	14.4%	14.0%	13.6%	13.4%	13.1%	12.8%

<sup>a</sup>Percent change from preceding period, Table B-2.

<sup>b</sup>Percent change in output per hour, business sector, Table B-47.

<sup>c</sup>All civilian workers, Table B-39.

<sup>d</sup>Change in implicit price deflator for gross national product, Table B-3.

<sup>e</sup>Corporate Aaa bond yield, Table B-71.

Source for first five lines of data: Economic Report of the President, Washington, D.C., February 1991.

Source for last two lines of data: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 166, Money Income and Poverty Status in the United States: 1988 (Advance Data from the March 1989 Current Population Survey), Washington, D.C., 1989, and Series P-160, No. 169-RD, Measuring the Effect of Benefits and Taxes on Income and Poverty: 1989, Washington, D.C., 1990.



the growth in Gross National Product (GNP) and productivity declined, and the decline in the unemployment rate slowed considerably. The increase in FSP participation reflected the softening economy.<sup>3</sup>

Total costs of the FSP also increased between fiscal years 1988 and 1989 from \$12.4 to \$12.9 billion (a 4.5 percent increase); FSP benefits increased by 4.7 percent. The average benefit per person increased from \$50 to \$52, reflecting Cost of Living Adjustments and a real increase in the maximum allotment amounts from 100 percent of the TFP to 100.65 percent of the TFP. Total Federal FSP costs in fiscal year 1989 consisted of \$11.7 billion for benefits, \$1.1 billion for State administration, \$117 million for Employment and Training programs, and \$60 million for other expenses.

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<sup>3</sup>For more information on the causes of the growth in FSP participation in 1989 and early 1990, see Corson, Walter and Sheena McConnell. "Recent Trends in Food Stamp Program Participation: A Preliminary Report to Congress." U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. July 1990.

## CHAPTER 3: CHARACTERISTICS OF FSP HOUSEHOLDS AND PARTICIPANTS

The FSP serves the nutritional needs of a broad spectrum of low-income Americans. In summer 1989, the FSP provided benefits each month to an average of 18.7 million persons who resided in 7.2 million households.<sup>4</sup> Almost all FSP households lived in poverty (according to the official government poverty thresholds used for program eligibility in fiscal year 1989). The vast majority of FSP households contained either a child (less than age 18), an elderly person (over age 59), or a disabled person. The average FSP household received a monthly FSP benefit of \$129, had an average gross income of \$443, had an average net income of \$247, was entitled to an average total deduction of \$216, and had an average household size of 2.6 persons. This chapter elaborates on the economic status and composition of FSP households and participants.

### THE POVERTY STATUS OF FSP HOUSEHOLDS<sup>5</sup>

The FSP provides benefits to households in need. As shown in table 3.1, the gross monthly income of 92 percent of FSP households in summer 1989 was less than or equal to 100 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines (see appendix D). The gross monthly income of over half of all FSP households (61 percent) was equal to or below 75 percent of the poverty line, and the income of 38 percent was equal to or below 50 percent of the poverty line.

The FSP effectively targets benefits to the most needy households. That is, of all FSP households living in poverty, poorer households receive larger food stamp benefits than do households with more income. As shown in table 3.1, while only 38 percent of all FSP households had gross incomes below 51 percent of the poverty line, they received 56 percent of all benefits. In contrast, the income of a greater number of FSP households (54 percent) was between 51 and 100 percent of the poverty line, but they received only 41 percent of the benefits.

To estimate the impact of food stamps on a household's purchasing power, we can add the dollar value of the food stamps that it received to its household income, and then examine the distribution of households by poverty status.<sup>6</sup> As shown in table 3.2, the combination of cash and food stamps--the alternative measure of gross income that includes food stamp benefits--yields a significantly

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<sup>4</sup>The information discussed in this chapter, as well as the data in appendix A, is limited to summer 1989 food stamp participants in the 50 States and the District of Columbia based on a sample of 11,000 households. An additional 29 thousand participants resided in Guam and the Virgin Islands. Puerto Rico, which until July 1982 had participated in the FSP, served participants through its Nutritional Assistance Program, and the Northern Mariana Islands also participated in a block grant program.

<sup>5</sup>For more information on the economic status of FSP households, see appendix tables A-5 through A-11.

<sup>6</sup>This comparison assumes that program participants value their food stamp benefits at face value.

Table 3.1--Distribution of households and benefits by the poverty line,  
summer 1989

Gross income as a percentage of poverty	Percent of all households	Percent of all benefits
25% or less	14.2	21.0
26 - 50	23.8	35.3
51 - 75	23.0	25.3
76 - 100	30.8	15.6
101 - 130	7.5	2.6
131 or more	0.3	0.1
Total <sup>a</sup>	100.0	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Table 3.2--Effect of food stamp benefits on the poverty status of food stamp households, summer 1989

Income as a percent of poverty	Distribution of households in relation to poverty line <sup>a</sup>		Change in percentage points
	Based on cash only	Based on cash and food stamps	
50% or less	38%	14%	-24
51 to 100%	54	71	+17
101% or more	8	15	+6
Number of households (in thousands)	7,213	7,213	

<sup>a</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

different distribution of FSP households by poverty status. Specifically, the alternative measure of income increases the income of FSP households sufficiently to move 6 percent of them above the poverty line. Food stamp benefits had an even greater impact on the poorest households, moving 24 percent of FSP households above 50 percent of the poverty line.

## HOUSEHOLDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

While the FSP does not restrict eligibility for food stamps to certain individuals, it effectively serves many households that contain persons with special needs--that is, children and elderly or disabled persons. In summer 1989, 83 percent of all FSP households contained either a child or an elderly or disabled person. These households received 89 percent of all FSP benefits.

### Children<sup>7</sup>

Children constitute the most impoverished age group in the United States. In fiscal year 1989, nearly 20 percent of all children lived in poverty, and 40 percent of all persons living in poverty were children. Many of these needy children are assisted by the FSP; in summer 1989, the FSP served an average of 9 million children each month. Over half (60 percent) of all FSP households contained children (see table 3.3). Compared with other FSP households, the ones that contain children received a relatively high average food stamp benefit of \$174 per month (see table 3.4). This relatively high benefit value primarily reflects the large average household size of those that contain children (3.5 persons).

Children who received food stamps in summer 1989 tended to live in households headed by single parents and to receive AFDC benefits in addition to food stamp benefits. Of all FSP households with children, 69 percent were headed by a single parent, representing almost half (42 percent) of all FSP households. Almost all (97 percent) of these single-parent families were headed by women. Since AFDC is targeted to single-parent families, a large percentage (77 percent) of these single-parent FSP households also received AFDC. Nearly a fifth (18 percent) received income from work.

A substantial proportion (17 percent) of FSP households contained multiple-adults and children, representing 28 percent of all FSP households with children.<sup>8</sup> The characteristics of multiple-adult households with children vary considerably from those of single-parent households. Multiple-adult households with children received higher benefits than single-parent FSP households (\$206 versus \$163). This higher average benefit reflects the larger average household size of multiple-parent households (4.6 persons, compared with 3.1 persons). Also, multiple-adult households with children had substantially higher gross monthly incomes (\$672 versus \$457). Of all multiple-adult households with children, 48 percent received earnings. FSP households with children constituted 81 percent of all FSP households with earnings.

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<sup>7</sup>For more information on FSP households with children, see appendix tables A-50 through A-52.

<sup>8</sup>In multiple-adult households with children, the second adult may not necessarily be a parent. He or she may be an adult child of the head, a sibling, a grandparent, or even an unrelated member.

Table 3.3--Household composition and selected characteristics of participating households, summer 1989

Household type	All households		Households with earned income <sup>a</sup>		Households with Social Security		Households with AFDC		Households with General Assistance		Households with SSI	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
Children <sup>b</sup>												
Single-parent families	3,006	41.7	554	39.4	156	11.0	2,324	77.0	73	10.1	181	12.1
Multiple-adult families	1,201	16.6	578	41.1	115	8.1	542	18.0	59	8.2	149	9.9
Other	131	1.8	2	0.1	2	0.1	44	1.5	0	0.0	1	0.1
Subtotal	4,337	60.1	1,134	80.7	273	19.3	2,910	96.4	133	18.3	331	22.1
Elderly <sup>d</sup>												
Living alone	1,026	14.2	17	1.2	763	53.9	1	0.0	58	7.9	644	43.0
Not living alone	382	5.3	39	2.8	253	17.9	72	2.4	23	3.2	191	12.8
Subtotal	1,408	19.5	56	4.0	1,016	71.7	74	2.4	81	11.1	836	55.8
Disabled <sup>e</sup>												
Living alone	323	4.5	7	0.5	77	5.5	0	0.0	25	3.4	323	21.5
Not living alone	340	4.7	30	2.2	84	5.9	205	6.8	24	3.2	340	22.7
Subtotal	663	9.2	37	2.6	161	11.4	205	6.8	48	6.6	663	44.2
Other households <sup>f</sup>												
Single-person households	937	13.0	132	9.4	80	5.6	28	0.9	440	60.5	0	0.0
Multiple-person households	272	3.8	88	6.3	16	1.1	76	2.5	46	6.3	0	0.0
Subtotal	1,210	16.8	221	15.7	96	6.8	103	3.4	485	66.8	0	0.0
Total <sup>g</sup>	7,213	100.0	1,406	100.0	1,416	100.0	3,019	100.0	727	100.0	1,499	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Earned income includes wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

<sup>b</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>c</sup>Households with all members age 17 or less.

<sup>d</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>e</sup>Households with SSI income and no member age 60 or more.

<sup>f</sup>Households without children, or elderly or disabled members.

<sup>g</sup>The sum of individual categories does not match the total because a household can have more than one of the characteristics included in the table.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control Sample.

Table 3.4--Average values of selected characteristics by household composition, summer 1989

Household type	Average gross monthly income (dollars)	Average net monthly income (dollars)	Average monthly FSP benefit (dollars)	Average household size (persons)
Children <sup>a</sup>				
Single-parent families	457	251	163	3.1
Multiple-adult families	672	439	206	4.6
Other <sup>b</sup>	152	92	133	2.0
Subtotal	507	298	174	3.5
Elderly <sup>c</sup>				
Living alone	399	202	35	1.0
Not living alone	590	393	99	2.8
Subtotal	451	254	52	1.5
Disabled <sup>d</sup>				
Living alone	398	200	34	1.0
Not living alone	635	457	121	3.4
Subtotal	520	332	79	2.2
Other households <sup>e</sup>				
Single-person households	198	62	74	1.0
Multiple-person households	355	170	131	2.2
Subtotal	234	86	86	1.3
All households	443	247	129	2.6

<sup>a</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>b</sup>Households with all members age 17 or less.

<sup>c</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>d</sup>Households with SSI income and no members age 60 or more.

<sup>e</sup>Households without children, elderly, or disabled members.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control Sample.

## **Elderly Persons<sup>9</sup>**

In summer 1989, the FSP served 1.6 million elderly persons. FSP households that contain elderly members represented 20 percent of all FSP households. These households received an average food stamp benefit of \$52 per month.

Elderly persons who receive food stamps tend to live alone, and thus receive relatively small food stamp benefits. In summer 1989, 73 percent of all FSP households with elderly members were single-person households. These single elderly participants received an average food stamp benefit of \$35 per month, compared with \$99 in benefits among households with elderly persons not living alone. Elderly persons not living alone lived in households averaging 2.8 persons.

FSP households that contain elderly persons tend to receive SSI and Social Security income. In summer 1989, 59 percent of all FSP households with elderly members received SSI, 72 percent received Social Security, and 40 percent received both SSI and Social Security income. FSP households with elderly members represent the majority of FSP households with SSI and Social Security income (56 and 72 percent, respectively).

## **Disabled Persons<sup>10</sup>**

In summer 1989, households that contain disabled persons represented 9 percent of all FSP households. By definition, households with disabled members receive SSI. In summer 1989, these households received an average monthly food stamp benefit of \$79.

Similar to households with elderly members, disabled persons who live alone receive a lower average monthly food stamp benefit than do households that contain disabled persons not living alone (\$34, compared with \$121). Approximately half of all FSP households that contain disabled persons are single-person households, while half are multiple-person households. Again, the difference in benefits among the two groups reflects differences in average household size. Disabled persons who do not live alone lived in households averaging 3.4 persons.

## **Other Households Served by the FSP**

The FSP serves other needy households besides those that contain children, elderly, or disabled persons. These households contain single or multiple nonelderly, nondisabled adults. In summer 1989, 17 percent of all FSP households fell into this category. They tended to be single-person households (77 percent) and received a relatively small average food stamp benefit of \$86 per month. These households represent the majority (67 percent) of households that received GA.

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<sup>9</sup>For more information on FSP households with elderly persons, see appendix tables A-44 through A-46.

<sup>10</sup>Disabled persons are defined as persons who receive SSI, but are not elderly. The database cannot identify other disabled persons. For more information on FSP households with disabled persons, see appendix tables A-47 through A-49.



Among FSP households in summer 1989, 32 percent were single-person households. Due to their small size, the average monthly food stamp benefit among single-person households was \$51. Most of these households (63 percent) contained females, and almost half (44 percent) contained elderly persons. Compared to all FSP households, a relatively small proportion of FSP participants living alone received earnings (7 percent), and a relatively high proportion had no gross income (11 percent), or received GA (22 percent).

### CHARACTERISTICS OF FSP PARTICIPANTS<sup>11</sup>

The FSP serves a broad spectrum of individuals. In summer 1989, the FSP served an average of 18.7 million persons each month. Nearly half were children, 40 percent were nonelderly adults (between ages 18 and 59), and 8 percent were elderly persons (the age of the remaining participants is unknown). Two-thirds of the children served by the FSP were school-age (between ages 5 and 17). Nearly three-fourths of both elderly and nonelderly adults were female. The majority (72 percent) of nonelderly adult FSP participants were parents--half were single parents, and half were multiple parents. Finally, nearly 8 percent of all FSP participants were single adults.

All able-bodied adult nonelderly FSP participants are required to register for and accept suitable employment.<sup>12</sup> Some groups of individuals are exempt from these requirements, including caretakers of small children and people working at least 30 hours a week. Similar to the FSP, participants in other assistance programs are also often required to register for work. In summer 1989, 16 percent of all FSP participants were registered for work under the FSP program or another assistance program. Most (84 percent) of FSP participants were exempt from work registration requirements--7 percent were disabled, 54 percent were younger or older than the required ages, and 11 percent were the caretakers of a child or an incapacitated adult.

### CHANGES IN THE CHARACTERISTICS OF FSP HOUSEHOLDS<sup>13</sup>

The characteristics of FSP households changed only slightly between summer 1988 and summer 1989.<sup>14</sup> Both the average and maximum food stamp benefit declined in real dollars, by 4.7 and 2.8

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<sup>11</sup>For more information on FSP participants and household heads, see appendix tables A-33 through A-40.

<sup>12</sup>Previous reports in this series included only persons required to register for work under the FSP; this report includes FSP participants registered for WIN or JOBS. For more information on the work registration status of FSP participants and household heads, see appendix tables A-39 and A-40.

<sup>13</sup>For more information on trends in the characteristics of FSP households, see appendix tables A-56 and A-57.

<sup>14</sup>This analysis is based on cross-sectional samples from summers 1988 and 1989. Thus, whether changes in the characteristics of FSP households reflect changes in the circumstances of continuing participants, of new participants, or both cannot be determined. In addition, we cannot disaggregate the separate impacts of FSP legislation, changes in the economy, or changes in other social programs.

percent, respectively (see table 3.5).<sup>15</sup> The decline in average food stamp benefit reflects the decline in maximum benefits and a decline in the average total deduction. The percentage of households with no gross income increased from 1988 to 1989, from 6 to 7 percent. The percentage of households that contain children decreased slightly, and the percentage that contain elderly members increased slightly. The number of households that contain disabled persons increased from 8.4 to 9.2 percent of all FSP households.

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<sup>15</sup>Although the maximum benefit is fully indexed, rising food prices can cause a lag in this adjustment and result in a temporary reduction in the maximum benefit.

Table 3.5--Average nominal and real values of selected characteristics,  
summer 1988 and summer 1989

	Nominal values			Real values	
	Summer 1988	Summer 1989	Percentage change	Summer 1989	Percentage change
Average gross income <sup>a</sup>					
Per household	\$433	\$443	+2.3	\$422	-2.5
Per person	160	171	+6.9	163	+1.9
Average net income <sup>a</sup>					
Per household	242	247	+2.1	235	-2.9
Per person	90	95	+5.6	90	0.0
Average total deduction <sup>a</sup>	211	216	+2.4	206	-2.4
Average household benefit <sup>b</sup>	127	129	+1.6	121	-4.7
Maximum coupon allotment (for a family of four) <sup>b</sup>	290	300	+3.4	282	-2.8
Consumer Price Index					
All items	118.75	124.50	+4.8		
Food at home	117.70	124.85	+6.1		

<sup>a</sup>Real values are in constant 1988 dollars adjusted by changes in the CPI-U for all items between summer 1988 and summer 1989 (4.8 percent).

<sup>b</sup>Real values are in constant 1988 dollars adjusted by changes in the CPI-U for food at home between summer 1988 and summer 1989 (6.1 percent).

Source of CPI-U values: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. Survey of Current Business, Vol. 69, no. 9. September, 1989.

Source of nominal values: Summer 1988 and summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control samples.

## CHAPTER 4: CHARACTERISTICS OF FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLDS BY STATE

For the first time in this series of reports, we provide information on the characteristics of FSP households by State. While previous reports (see appendix J) provide estimates based on a 2-month sample (as in Chapter 3 and appendix A), this chapter provides estimates based on a 12-month sample. The State estimates are monthly averages based on all 12 months of fiscal year 1989 (a sample of approximately 63,000 households). Appendix B contains detailed tabulations by State. After discussing some general characteristics of the States, we examine the characteristics of FSP households among the States.

### GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE STATES

The economic and demographic characteristics of States vary considerably. As shown in table 4.1, a large percentage of U.S. households were located in California, New York, and Texas in fiscal year

1988. These States also contained a large percentage of FSP households in fiscal year 1989 (see table 4.2). However, the percentage of all households in a State participating in the FSP in fiscal year 1989 was relatively high in Alabama, Delaware, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Ohio, Tennessee, and West Virginia. Three of these States--Louisiana, Mississippi, and West Virginia--had an unemployment rate of greater than 8 percent. These States also exhibited a relatively low average per-capita income. Approximately a quarter of all households in each State contained children. Several States--Florida, Iowa, and Pennsylvania--had a high percentage of households that contain elderly persons.

### CHARACTERISTICS OF STATEWIDE FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLDS

The distribution of FSP households varies by State. As shown in table 4.2, a relatively large percentage of all FSP households in fiscal year 1989 resided in California, Illinois, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas. Together, California, New York, and Texas contained 25 percent of all FSP households, and Illinois, Michigan, and Ohio contained another 17 percent of all FSP households.

Similarly, the characteristics of FSP households vary significantly by State. For example, average monthly household food stamp benefits differ greatly among the States. When averaged over all 12

Table 4.1--Economic and demographic characteristics of States

State	Percent of all households in the U.S.	FSP Households as a percent of all households in the State	Unemployment rate	Percent of persons under age 18	Percent of persons over age 64	Average per- capita income (dollars)
Alabama	1.6	10.5	7.2	27.2	12.5	12,851
Alaska	0.2	5.1	7.3	32.0	3.8	19,079
Arizona	1.4	7.0	5.6	27.3	12.8	14,970
Arkansas	1.0	9.2	7.2	27.1	14.6	12,219
California	11.3	6.0	5.1	26.5	10.6	18,753
Colorado	1.4	6.5	6.0	26.3	9.5	16,463
Connecticut	1.3	3.6	3.4	23.5	13.4	23,059
Delaware	0.3	10.2	5.2	25.2	11.6	17,661
Dist. of Col.	0.3	4.4	3.6	22.3	12.4	21,389
Florida	5.4	5.3	5.5	22.7	17.8	16,603
Georgia	2.5	7.8	5.5	28.0	10.0	15,260
Hawaii	0.4	8.8	2.7	26.1	10.4	16,753
Idaho	0.4	5.8	5.3	30.3	11.7	12,665
Illinois	4.7	9.3	6.0	25.9	12.2	17,575
Indiana	2.3	4.8	4.6	26.3	12.2	14,924
Iowa	1.2	6.2	4.2	25.2	14.9	14,662
Kansas	1.0	5.1	4.2	26.2	13.5	15,759
Kentucky	1.5	11.6	6.5	26.3	12.4	12,822
Louisiana	1.7	15.7	8.9	29.4	10.9	12,292
Maine	0.5	8.0	3.9	25.2	13.4	15,106
Maryland	1.9	6.3	3.9	24.8	10.8	19,487
Massachusetts	2.4	6.1	3.7	22.6	13.7	20,816
Michigan	3.7	10.7	7.0	26.5	11.7	16,552
Minnesota	1.8	6.1	4.3	26.0	12.5	16,674
Mississippi	1.0	18.7	8.3	29.8	12.3	11,116
Missouri	2.1	7.8	5.4	25.5	13.8	15,452
Montana	0.3	6.9	6.1	27.4	12.8	12,866
Nebraska	0.7	5.9	3.1	26.4	13.8	14,774
Nevada	0.5	4.6	4.9	25.2	10.7	17,511
New Hampshire	0.4	2.5	3.0	25.3	11.3	19,434
New Jersey	3.1	4.8	3.9	23.7	13.1	21,994
New Mexico	0.6	9.1	6.8	29.8	10.3	12,488
New York	7.4	9.6	5.0	24.3	13.0	19,305
North Carolina	2.7	6.3	3.7	25.2	11.9	14,304
North Dakota	0.3	5.6	4.3	27.4	13.5	12,833
Ohio	4.5	10.9	5.4	26.0	12.6	15,536
Oklahoma	1.4	8.2	5.8	27.2	13.0	13,323
Oregon	1.2	8.3	5.6	24.8	13.8	14,885
Pennsylvania	4.9	8.6	4.4	23.7	14.9	16,233
Rhode Island	0.4	6.7	3.5	23.1	14.7	16,892
South Carolina	1.3	7.8	4.5	27.3	10.9	12,926
South Dakota	0.3	6.3	4.2	27.6	14.0	12,755
Tennessee	2.0	10.4	5.3	25.6	12.5	13,873
Texas	6.6	9.0	6.8	29.6	9.9	14,586
Utah	0.6	6.5	4.7	37.3	8.4	12,193
Vermont	0.2	7.1	3.4	25.3	11.8	15,302
Virginia	2.4	6.2	3.9	24.4	10.6	17,675
Washington	2.0	6.5	6.1	25.6	11.8	16,473
West Virginia	0.8	13.3	8.6	25.5	14.3	11,735
Wisconsin	2.0	5.4	4.3	26.2	13.2	15,524
Wyoming	0.2	5.7	6.5	29.4	9.4	13,609
Total	100.0	7.9	5.3	26.0	12.4	16,489

Source of Columns 1, 4, and 5: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1990, Washington, D.C., (1988 Data).

Source of Column 2: 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Source of Column 3: U.S. Department of Labor, (1989 Data).

Source of Column 6: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Survey of Current Business, Vol. 69, No. 8, August 1989, (1988 Data).

Table 4.2--Distribution of participating households by State and FSP benefit, 1989

State	Food stamp households		Average FSP benefit (dollars)
	(thousands)	Percent	
Alabama	157	2.2	146
Alaska	9	0.1	201
Arizona	90	1.2	169
Arkansas	83	1.1	128
California	624	8.7	102
Colorado	82	1.1	137
Connecticut	43	0.6	100
Delaware	11	0.2	144
Dist. of Col.	25	0.4	118
Florida	261	3.6	141
Georgia	181	2.5	136
Hawaii	31	0.4	206
Idaho	21	0.3	153
Illinois	402	5.6	139
Indiana	100	1.4	147
Iowa	67	0.9	123
Kansas	49	0.7	124
Kentucky	161	2.2	147
Louisiana	245	3.4	164
Maine	37	0.5	109
Maryland	106	1.5	125
Massachusetts	136	1.9	86
Michigan	363	5.0	119
Minnesota	98	1.4	112
Mississippi	172	2.4	146
Missouri	153	2.1	138
Montana	21	0.3	143
Nebraska	36	0.5	122
Nevada	19	0.3	126
New Hampshire	10	0.1	85
New Jersey	137	1.9	137
New Mexico	49	0.7	164
New York	650	9.0	107
North Carolina	154	2.1	124
North Dakota	14	0.2	129
Ohio	449	6.2	137
Oklahoma	102	1.4	126
Oregon	91	1.3	121
Pennsylvania	389	5.4	127
Rhode Island	25	0.3	93
South Carolina	95	1.3	145
South Dakota	17	0.2	150
Tennessee	193	2.7	137
Texas	542	7.5	166
Utah	34	0.5	145
Vermont	15	0.2	83
Virginia	138	1.9	122
Washington	118	1.6	116
West Virginia	94	1.3	148
Wisconsin	99	1.4	136
Wyoming	10	0.1	147
Total*	7,209	100.0	131

\*Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

## FSP Households in California, New York, and Texas

Although California, New York, and Texas contain a high percentage of FSP households (25 percent), the characteristics of those households vary considerably. For example, while average food stamp benefits in California and New York were relatively small (\$102 and \$107, respectively), the average food stamp benefit in Texas was relatively large (\$166).

This variation in food stamp benefits reflects the different factors that determine FSP benefits among the States: household size and composition, and average monthly gross and net income (which reflect differences in earnings, FSP deductions, and benefits from other public assistance programs). The relatively small average monthly food stamp benefit in California reflects the high gross and net incomes of food stamp households in the State, as well as the low percentage (15 percent) of food stamp households below 51 percent of the poverty line. These high gross incomes do not necessarily mean that a large percentage of households have earners or receive high average monthly earnings; rather, they reflect the fact that these States provide higher AFDC benefits.<sup>16</sup> In California, FSP households receive an average monthly AFDC payment of \$649, which is \$260 higher than the national average. In addition, a very high percentage of FSP households in California (74 percent) receive AFDC, which reflects the very high percentage of FSP households in California (85 percent) that contain children.

Even though the average monthly food stamp benefit among FSP households in New York is similar to that in California, the characteristics of the FSP households in the two States vary significantly. Compared with California, FSP households in New York have a significantly lower average gross and net income (in part reflecting lower average AFDC benefits), as well as a lower percentage of households that receive AFDC or earnings; however, their average income is still significantly higher than the national average. In addition, compared with California and the nation, FSP households in New York have a relatively high total deduction per month. Their lower incomes and higher total deductions would suggest that their food stamp benefits should be larger than those of FSP households in California. However, compared with households in California and the nation, FSP households in New York are significantly smaller and smaller households tend to receive smaller benefits. Thus, even though FSP households in New York have lower incomes compared with those in California, they receive smaller benefits primarily due to their smaller size.

Unlike New York and California, FSP households in Texas receive relatively large average monthly food stamp benefits, reflecting their low average gross and net incomes. This difference also reflects the fact that FSP households in Texas are large, a high percentage (53 percent) of households are below 51 percent of the poverty line, AFDC benefits are small (an average of \$183 per month, \$206 below the national average), and a small percentage (only 28 percent) of FSP households receive AFDC. However, an above-average percentage (30 percent) have earnings and these households receive high average monthly earnings (\$608).

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<sup>16</sup>AFDC benefit levels are determined by each State and vary dramatically among States, unlike FSP benefits.

## **FSP Households in Other States**

FSP households in other regions of the United States also exhibit differing characteristics. Similar to Texas, other States in the Sunbelt (specifically, Arizona, Louisiana, and New Mexico) offer relatively large food stamp benefits, reflecting large average household sizes, small AFDC benefits, low gross and net incomes among households, high percentages of households below 51 percent of the poverty line, and above-average percentages of households that contain children. As with Texas, more FSP households in these States tend to have earnings, and their earnings tend to be higher.

Conversely, FSP households in New England receive small food stamp benefits, due to their high incomes and small households. FSP households in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont tend to contain elderly persons, and these States offer relatively generous AFDC programs. Although FSP households in several New England States tend to have high shelter deductions, their net incomes remain high.

## **FSP HOUSEHOLDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND CHARACTERISTICS**

In this section, we examine the cross-State distribution of FSP households that contain children or elderly or disabled members, and that receive earnings and AFDC. The distribution of some of these types of FSP households present clear trends, while others are less pronounced.

A very clear pattern emerges among States in which a large percentage of FSP households contain elderly persons. States in which more than 30 percent of their FSP caseload contain elderly members (compared with a national average of 19 percent) are concentrated in the South. Several New England States also have a high percentage of FSP households that contain elderly persons. Of all FSP households that contain elderly persons, 10 percent reside in New York, 8 percent reside in Texas, and 6 percent reside in Florida.

States in the West and Midwest have a particularly high percentage of FSP households that contain earners. Similarly, Southern States also have a high percentage of FSP households that contain earners, although not as high as in the Western and Midwestern States. These Southern States include Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Texas. Of all FSP households that contain earners, 11 percent reside in Texas.

The distribution of FSP households by race and ethnicity of the household head also shows a clear pattern among the States. States that contain a large percentage of FSP households headed by black persons are concentrated in the Southeast and in Illinois. States that contain a large percentage of Hispanic-headed FSP households are concentrated in the South, the Southwest, and several Northeastern States. Of all FSP households headed by a Hispanic person, Texas contains 25 percent, New York contains 21 percent, and California contains 18 percent.

States that have a high percentage of FSP households that contain children are concentrated in Texas and in the West. Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, and Wisconsin also have a high percentage of FSP households that contain children. States in which a high percentage of FSP households receive AFDC do not necessarily coincide with States in which a large percentage of FSP households contain children, with the exception of California, Connecticut, Delaware, and Wisconsin. Otherwise, most of the States in which a large percentage of FSP households receive AFDC are located in New



England, which is the area that also provides relatively large monthly AFDC benefits to FSP households.

The characteristics of FSP households in summer 1989 by State are summarized below:

- States in which a large percentage of FSP households contain elderly persons were concentrated in the South.
- States in which a large percentage of FSP households contain earners were concentrated in the West, the Midwest, and the South.
- States in which a large percentage of FSP households were headed by black persons were concentrated in the Southeast. States in which a large percentage of FSP households were headed by Hispanic persons were concentrated in the Southern and Southwestern regions of the United States.
- States in which a large percentage of FSP households contain children were concentrated in the West, while States in which a large percentage of FSP households receive AFDC were concentrated on the East coast, in the Midwest, and in California.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **DETAILED TABLES OF FSP CHARACTERISTICS: NATIONAL DATA**

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Appendix Table A-1--Aggregate summer 1989 participation totals

Area	Number of households (thousands)	Number of people (thousands)	Value of benefits (thousands)
United States	7,237	18,653	\$960,816
Continental U.S.	7,197	18,550	953,097
Alaska and Hawaii	40	104	7,720
Outlying Areas <sup>a</sup>	8	29	2,295
Total	7,245	18,682	\$963,112

<sup>a</sup>Includes participants in Guam and the Virgin Islands.

Source: Food Stamp Program Integrated Information System.



Appendix Table A-2--Average values of selected characteristics by household composition

	All households	Households with elderly <sup>a</sup>	Households with disabled <sup>b</sup>	Households with children <sup>c</sup>
Gross monthly income (dollars)	443	451	520	507
Net monthly income (dollars)	247	254	332	298
Total deduction <sup>d</sup> (dollars)	216	204	190	226
Countable resources (dollars)	84	184	84	60
Monthly benefit (dollars)	129	52	79	174
Household size (persons)	2.6	1.5	2.2	3.5
Certification period (months)	9.7	11.6	10.2	9.2

<sup>a</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>b</sup>Households with SSI income and no member age 60 or more.

<sup>c</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>d</sup>Includes earned income, dependent care, excess shelter, medical, and standard deductions. The value of the standard deduction and the limit on the excess shelter deduction vary depending on region (see appendix E). Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-3--Average values of selected characteristics by income source

	All households	Households with earned income <sup>a</sup>	Households with AFDC	Households with General Assistance	Households with SSI	Households with Social Security
Gross monthly income (dollars)	443	667	476	317	475	490
Net monthly income (dollars)	247	371	281	134	288	292
Total deduction <sup>b</sup> (dollars)	216	307	200	205	189	201
Countable resources (dollars)	84	124	36	32	120	184
Monthly benefit (dollars)	129	153	168	95	59	60
Household size (persons)	2.6	3.5	3.3	1.6	1.7	1.7
Certification period (months)	9.7	8.8	9.5	9.6	11.2	11.4

<sup>a</sup>Earned income includes wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

<sup>b</sup>Includes earned income, dependent care, excess shelter, medical, and standard deductions. The value of the standard deduction and the limit on the excess shelter deduction vary depending on region (see appendix E). Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-4--Distribution of participating households  
with selected characteristics

	Number of households (thousands)	Percent of all households <sup>a</sup>
Zero gross income	502	7.0
Zero net income	1,294	17.9
Minimum benefit <sup>b</sup>	547	7.6
Elderly <sup>c</sup>	1,408	19.5
Children <sup>d</sup>	4,337	60.1
School-age children <sup>e</sup>	3,296	45.7
Preschool-age children <sup>f</sup>	2,258	31.3
Disabled <sup>g</sup>	663	9.2

<sup>a</sup>Percent figures do not add to 100 because a household can have more than one of the characteristics included in the table.

<sup>b</sup>Minimum benefit is \$10 for one- or two-person households.

<sup>c</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>d</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>e</sup>Households with at least one member age 5 to 17.

<sup>f</sup>Households with at least one member less than age 5.

<sup>g</sup>Households with SSI income and no member age 60 or more.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-5--Distribution of participating households by gross and net monthly income

Amount of monthly income	Gross income		Net income	
	Number of households (thousands)	Percent of all households	Number of households (thousands)	Percent of all households
None	502	7.0	1,294	17.9
\$1-99	115	1.6	987	13.7
100-199	581	8.1	1,252	17.4
200-299	726	10.1	1,314	18.2
300-399	1,700	23.6	770	10.7
400-499	1,123	15.6	600	8.3
500-599	864	12.0	402	5.6
600-699	528	7.3	249	3.5
700-799	379	5.3	154	2.1
800-899	271	3.8	86	1.2
900-999	144	2.0	57	0.8
1000+	281	3.9	48	0.7
Total <sup>a</sup>	7,213	100.0	7,213	100.0

Average gross income = \$443

Average net income = \$247

<sup>a</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-6--Distribution of participating households by gross monthly income and household size

Gross monthly income	Household size								Number of households <sup>a</sup> (thousands)	Percent of all households <sup>a</sup>
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+		
None	258	113	70	38	12	9	1	1	502	7.0
\$1-99	65	26	8	9	6	--	1	--	115	1.6
100-199	278	143	109	24	22	5	--	1	581	8.1
200-299	190	248	157	80	35	13	2	--	726	10.1
300-399	885	322	285	145	48	9	3	3	1,700	23.6
400-499	491	230	188	134	56	16	1	7	1,123	15.6
500-599	128	343	181	118	59	24	10	2	864	12.0
600-699	23	115	208	95	63	13	7	4	528	7.3
700-799	4	77	102	108	49	22	5	12	379	5.3
800-899	3	18	64	105	48	10	16	6	271	3.8
900-999	0	3	35	27	46	13	13	8	144	2.0
1000+	0	17	7	71	73	59	22	31	281	3.9
Number of households <sup>a</sup>	2,326	1,653	1,415	954	517	194	81	73	7,213	100.0
Percent of all households <sup>a</sup>	32.3	22.9	19.6	13.2	7.2	2.7	1.1	1.0	100.0	
Average gross income	\$313	\$398	\$460	\$566	\$647	\$757	\$845	\$951	\$443	

<sup>a</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of the individual categories may not match the table total.

-- No sample households in this category.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-7--Distribution of participating households by  
net monthly income and household size

Net monthly income	Household size								Number of households <sup>a</sup> (thousands)	Percent of all households <sup>a</sup>
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+		
None	647	282	194	101	50	14	4	2	1,294	17.9
\$1-99	375	284	217	65	32	8	1	5	987	13.7
100-199	462	343	241	129	56	17	3	2	1,252	17.4
200-299	595	269	225	144	56	17	4	4	1,314	18.2
300-399	178	193	178	131	61	18	8	3	770	10.7
400-499	57	179	157	104	75	17	9	2	600	8.3
500-599	10	62	130	117	43	21	13	8	402	5.6
600-699	3	25	62	75	46	19	11	8	249	3.5
700-799	--	8	11	64	40	11	10	10	154	2.1
800-899	0	1	0	18	36	15	5	10	86	1.2
900-999	--	6	--	5	13	22	7	4	57	0.8
1000+	--	2	--	--	9	15	7	16	48	0.7
Number of households <sup>a</sup>	2,326	1,653	1,415	954	517	194	81	73	7,213	100.0
Percent of all households <sup>a</sup>	32.3	22.9	19.6	13.2	7.2	2.7	1.1	1.0	100.0	
Average net income	\$143	\$207	\$251	\$348	\$417	\$531	\$594	\$731	\$247	

<sup>a</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

-- No sample households in this category.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-8--Distribution of participating households by income source

Amount of monthly income from specified source	Earned income <sup>a</sup>		Social Security		AFDC or General Assistance		SSI		Other income	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
None	5,808	80.5	5,797	80.4	3,511	48.7	5,715	79.2	6,206	86.0
\$ 1-99	106	1.5	39	0.5	206	2.9	313	4.3	466	6.5
100-199	149	2.1	125	1.7	686	9.5	273	3.8	180	2.5
200-299	131	1.8	367	5.1	736	10.2	144	2.0	95	1.3
300-399	156	2.2	431	6.0	803	11.1	572	7.9	98	1.4
400-499	156	2.2	242	3.4	434	6.0	143	2.0	63	0.9
500-599	136	1.9	108	1.5	401	5.6	30	0.4	49	0.7
600-699	119	1.6	54	0.8	229	3.2	8	0.1	22	0.3
700-799	117	1.6	36	0.5	93	1.3	13	0.2	15	0.2
800-899	103	1.4	6	0.1	67	0.9	--	--	10	0.1
900-999	72	1.0	7	0.1	32	0.5	--	--	2	0.0
1000 +	162	2.2	0	0.0	14	0.2	1	0.0	8	0.1

Appendix Table A-9--Distribution of participating households, average income, average benefit, and average household size by selected income sources

Income source	Number of households (thousands)	Percent of all households	Average income amount <sup>a</sup>		Average benefit <sup>a</sup>	Average household size
			Gross	From source		
Earned Income:						
Wages and salaries	1,314	18.2	\$684	\$566	\$152	3.5
Self-employment	96	1.3	470	271	168	3.1
Earned income tax credit	3	0.0	608	260	115	2.8
Other earned income	13	0.2	589	153	125	3.0
Unearned Income:						
Aid to Families with Dependent Children	3,019	41.8	476	383	168	3.3
Household General Assistance	727	10.1	317	224	95	1.6
Supplemental Security Income	1,499	20.8	475	267	59	1.7
Social Security	1,416	19.6	490	356	60	1.7
Household unemployment income	106	1.5	564	420	159	3.5
Veterans' benefits	164	2.3	526	202	67	2.0
Workers' compensation	43	0.6	631	430	119	3.2
Other government benefits	98	1.4	500	216	127	2.8
Household contributions	238	3.3	462	160	173	3.3
Household deemed income	4	0.1	585	73	58	2.5
Household loans	51	0.7	570	165	143	3.2
Other unearned income	367	5.1	484	99	110	2.5
No Income:	502	7.0	0	0	158	2.0
Total <sup>b</sup>	7,213	100.0	443		129	2.6

<sup>a</sup>Average over households with income from specified source.

<sup>b</sup>The sum of individual income sources does not add to the total because households can receive income from more than one source.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.



Appendix Table A-10--Distribution of participating households by gross monthly income as a percentage of the poverty line for all households, households with elderly or disabled, and households with children

Gross income as a percentage of the poverty line <sup>a</sup>	All households		Households with elderly <sup>b</sup>		Households with elderly or disabled <sup>c</sup>		Households with children <sup>d</sup>	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
25% or Less	1,026	14.2	28	2.0	31	1.5	628	14.5
26 - 50	1,720	23.8	63	4.5	98	4.7	1,312	30.3
51 - 75	1,662	23.0	229	16.3	400	19.3	1,169	26.9
76 - 100	2,221	30.8	893	63.4	1,293	62.5	915	21.1
101 - 125	502	7.0	174	12.3	216	10.4	270	6.2
126 - 130	34	0.5	4	0.3	11	0.5	20	0.5
131 - 150	25	0.3	9	0.6	12	0.6	12	0.3
151 or more	24	0.3	8	0.6	10	0.5	12	0.3
Total <sup>e</sup>	7,213	100.0	1,408	100.0	2,071	100.0	4,337	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Defined as the 1989 poverty thresholds published by the Department of Health and Human Services (see appendix C).

<sup>b</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>c</sup>Households where at least one member is age 60 or more, or at least one member receives SSI and no member is age 60 or more.

<sup>d</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>e</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-11--Distribution of participating households by net monthly income as a percentage of the poverty line for all households, households with elderly or disabled, and households with children

Net income as a percentage of the poverty line <sup>a</sup>	All households		Households with elderly <sup>b</sup>		Households with elderly or disabled <sup>c</sup>		Households with children <sup>d</sup>	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
25% or less	3,240	44.9	318	22.6	438	21.1	1,928	44.5
26 - 50	2,032	28.2	475	33.7	713	34.4	1,303	30.0
51 - 75	1,520	21.1	461	32.8	697	33.7	877	20.2
76 - 100	385	5.3	150	10.6	207	10.0	210	4.8
101 - 125	24	0.3	4	0.3	13	0.6	11	0.3
126 - 130	0	0.0	--	--	0	0.0	0	0.0
131 - 150	9	0.1	0	0.0	2	0.1	6	0.1
151 or more	2	0.0	--	--	0	0.0	2	0.0
Total <sup>e</sup>	7,213	100.0	1,408	100.0	2,071	100.0	4,337	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Defined as the 1989 poverty thresholds published by the Department of Health and Human Services (see appendix C).

<sup>b</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>c</sup>Households where at least one member is age 60 or more, or at least one member receives SSI and no member is age 60 or more.

<sup>d</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>e</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

-- No sample households in this category.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-12--Distribution of participating households claiming deductions  
and value of deductions claimed<sup>a</sup>

Type of deduction	Number of households claiming deduction (thousands)	Percent of all households	Average amount of deduction	
			Over claiming households	Over all households
Earned income <sup>b</sup>	1,406	19.5	\$110	\$21
Dependent care <sup>c</sup>	179	2.5	125	3
Shelter <sup>d</sup>	4,910	68.1	122	83
Medical <sup>e</sup>	216	3.0	90	3
Total <sup>f</sup>	7,213	100.0	216	216

<sup>a</sup>Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

<sup>b</sup>Earned income includes wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

<sup>c</sup>Subject to a limit of \$160 per dependent per month (see appendix E).

<sup>d</sup>Subject to a limit except where at least one member is age 60 or more, or at least one member receives SSI and no member is age 60 or more (see appendix E).

<sup>e</sup>Available only to households where at least one member is age 60 or more, or at least one member receives SSI and no member is age 60 or more.

<sup>f</sup>Includes the standard deduction for all households (see appendix E). Due to households claiming more than one deduction or none at all, the sum of the individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-13--Distribution of participating households by  
amount of total deduction

Amount of total deduction <sup>a</sup>	Number of households (thousands)	Percent of all households
\$101 - 150	2,376	32.9
151 - 200	1,012	14.0
201 - 250	1,022	14.2
251 - 300	1,773	24.6
301+	1,030	14.3
Total <sup>b</sup>	7,213	100.0
Average Deduction for claiming households = \$216		

<sup>a</sup>Includes earned income, dependent care, excess shelter, medical, and standard deductions. The value of the standard deduction and the limit on the excess shelter deduction vary depending on region (see appendix E). Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

<sup>b</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-14--Average total deduction\* for all participating households by gross monthly income and household size

Gross monthly income	Household size								Average total deduction
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+	
	(dollars)								
None	151	199	209	214	254	229	143	270	179
\$1-99	143	184	181	186	146	--	352	--	160
100-199	204	176	193	229	245	211	--	292	197
200-299	214	195	206	210	188	173	218	--	203
300-399	197	208	206	206	197	198	190	127	201
400-499	220	215	229	192	236	222	149	318	218
500-599	212	218	221	215	209	208	219	226	217
600-699	211	251	208	232	228	180	200	262	224
700-799	268	240	261	227	258	232	142	183	241
800-899	106	266	328	240	230	224	242	159	257
900-999	106	248	371	289	234	239	312	206	283
1000+	903	360	400	406	346	300	319	239	341
Average total deduction	199	212	225	232	242	239	258	225	216

\*Includes earned income, dependent care, excess shelter, medical, and standard deductions. The value of the standard deduction and the limit on the excess shelter deduction vary depending on region (see appendix E). Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

-- No sample households in this category.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-15--Distribution of participating households claiming earned income deduction and value of deduction claimed<sup>a</sup>

Households with:	Number of households		Percent of all households	Average amount of deduction	
	Total (thousands)	With deduction (thousands)		With deduction	All households
Elderly <sup>b</sup>	1,408	56	4.0	\$61	\$2
Children <sup>c</sup>	4,337	1,134	26.1	122	32
Disabled <sup>d</sup>	663	37	5.6	68	4
Earned income <sup>e</sup>	1,406	1,406	100.0	110	110
Public assistance <sup>f</sup>	3,703	345	9.3	74	7
Total <sup>g</sup>	7,213	1,406	19.5	110	21

<sup>a</sup>Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

<sup>b</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>c</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>d</sup>Households with SSI income and no member is age 60 or more.

<sup>e</sup>Earned income includes wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

<sup>f</sup>Public assistance includes Aid to Families with Dependent Children and General Assistance.

<sup>g</sup>The sum of individual categories does not match the total because a household can have more than one of the characteristics included in the table.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-16--Distribution of participating households  
by amount of earned income deduction<sup>a</sup>

Amount of earned income deduction <sup>a</sup>	Number of households (thousands)	Percent of all households
None	5,808	80.5
\$1-50	335	4.6
51-100	371	5.1
101-150	302	4.2
151-200	239	3.3
201-250	111	1.5
251-300	38	0.5
301+	9	0.1
Total <sup>b</sup>	7,213	100.0
Average earned income deduction for claiming earned income households = \$110		

<sup>a</sup>Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

<sup>b</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-17--Distribution of participating households claiming dependent care deduction<sup>a</sup> and value of deduction claimed<sup>b</sup>

Households with:	Number of households		Percent of all households	Average amount of deduction		Percent with the maximum deduction	
	Total (thousands)	With deduction (thousands)		With deduction	All households	With deduction	All households
Elderly <sup>c</sup>	1,408	0	0.0	--	\$0	0.0	0.0
Children <sup>d</sup>	4,337	179	4.1	\$125	5	7.5	0.3
Disabled <sup>e</sup>	663	0	0.0	--	0	0.0	0.0
Earned income <sup>f</sup>	1,406	164	11.6	131	15	7.9	0.9
Public assistance <sup>g</sup>	3,703	74	2.0	136	3	11.1	0.2
Total <sup>h</sup>	7,213	179	2.5	125	3	7.5	0.2

<sup>a</sup>Subject to a limit of \$160 per dependent per month (see appendix E).

<sup>b</sup>Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

<sup>c</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>d</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>e</sup>Households with SSI income and no member age 60 or more.

<sup>f</sup>Earned income includes wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

<sup>g</sup>Public assistance includes Aid to Families with Dependent Children and General Assistance.

<sup>h</sup>The sum of individual categories does not match the total because a household can have more than one of the characteristics included in the table.

-- No sample households in this category.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.



Appendix Table A-18--Distribution of participating households by amount of dependent care deduction<sup>a</sup>

Amount of dependent care deduction <sup>b</sup>	Number of households (thousands)	Percent of all households
None	7,034	97.5
\$1 - 50	35	0.5
51 - 100	54	0.7
101 - 150	37	0.5
151 - 200	29	0.4
201+	25	0.4
Total <sup>c</sup>	7,213	100.0
Average dependent care deduction for claiming households = \$125		

<sup>a</sup>Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

<sup>b</sup>Subject to a limit of \$160 per dependent per month (see appendix E).

<sup>c</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-19--Distribution of participating households claiming excess shelter deduction<sup>a</sup> and value of deduction claimed<sup>b</sup>

Households with:	Number of households		Percent of all households	Average amount of deduction	
	Total (thousands)	With deduction (thousands)		With deduction	All households
Elderly <sup>c</sup>	1,408	919	65.3	\$127	\$83
Children <sup>d</sup>	4,337	2,963	68.3	121	83
Disabled <sup>e</sup>	663	425	64.0	122	78
Earned income <sup>f</sup>	1,406	896	63.7	118	75
Public assistance <sup>g</sup>	3,703	2,671	72.1	118	85
Total <sup>h</sup>	7,213	4,910	68.1	122	83

<sup>a</sup>Subject to a limit except where at least one member is age 60 or more, or at least one member receives SSI and no member is age 60 or more (see appendix E).

<sup>b</sup>Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

<sup>c</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>d</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>e</sup>Households with SSI income and no member age 60 or more.

<sup>f</sup>Earned income includes wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

<sup>g</sup>Public assistance includes Aid to Families with Dependent Children and General Assistance.

<sup>h</sup>The sum of individual categories does not match the total because a household can have more than one of the characteristics included in the table.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

**CHARACTERISTICS OF  
FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLDS**

**SUMMER 1989**

Appendix Table A-20--Distribution of participating households by  
amount of excess shelter deduction<sup>a</sup>

Amount of excess shelter deduction <sup>b</sup>	Number of households (thousands)	Percent of all households
None	2,304	31.9
\$1 - 50	835	11.6
51 - 100	1,063	14.7
101 - 150	945	13.1
151 - 169	273	3.8
170	1,441	20.0
171+	353	4.9
Total <sup>c</sup>	7,213	100.0
Average excess shelter deduction for claiming households = \$122		

<sup>a</sup>Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

<sup>b</sup>Subject to a limit except where at least one member is age 60 or more, or at least one member receives SSI and no member is age 60 or more (see appendix E).

<sup>c</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-21--Distribution of participating households  
by the value of shelter deduction<sup>a</sup>

Value of shelter deduction <sup>b</sup>	All households		Households with elderly <sup>c</sup>		Households with children <sup>d</sup>		Households with disabled <sup>e</sup>		Households with earned income <sup>f</sup>		Households with public assistance <sup>g</sup>	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
None	2,304	31.9	489	34.7	1,374	31.7	238	36.0	510	36.3	1,032	27.9
Less than cap	3,121	43.3	669	47.5	1,730	39.9	323	48.8	559	39.8	1,680	45.4
Equal to cap	1,443	20.0	2	0.1	1,169	27.0	3	0.4	316	22.5	933	25.2
Greater than cap	346	4.8	248	17.6	63	1.5	98	14.8	20	1.5	57	1.6
Total <sup>h</sup>	7,213	100.0	1,408	100.0	4,337	100.0	663	100.0	1,406	100.0	3,703	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

<sup>b</sup>Subject to a limit except where at least one member is age 60 or more, or at least one member receives SSI and no member is age 60 or more (see appendix E).

<sup>c</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>d</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>e</sup>Households with SSI income and no member age 60 or more.

<sup>f</sup>Earned income includes wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

<sup>g</sup>Public assistance includes Aid to Families with Dependent Children and General Assistance.

<sup>h</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-22--Distribution of participating households claiming medical deduction and value of deduction claimed<sup>a</sup>

Households with:	Number of households		Percent of all households	Average amount of deduction	
	Total (thousands)	With deduction (thousands)		With deduction	All households
Elderly <sup>b</sup>	1,408	204	14.5	\$89	\$13
Children <sup>c</sup>	4,337	7	0.2	93	0
Disabled <sup>d</sup>	663	12	1.8	102	2
Earned income <sup>e</sup>	1,406	3	0.2	71	0
Public assistance <sup>f</sup>	3,703	3	0.1	55	0
Total <sup>g</sup>	7,213	216	3.0	90	3

<sup>a</sup>Available only to households where at least one member is age 60 or more, or at least one member receives SSI and no member is age 60 or more. Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

<sup>b</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>c</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>d</sup>Households with SSI income and no member age 60 or more.

<sup>e</sup>Earned income includes wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

<sup>f</sup>Public assistance includes Aid to Families with Dependent Children and General Assistance.

<sup>g</sup>The sum of individual categories does not match the total because a household can have more than one of the characteristics included in the table.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-23--Distribution of participating households by amount of medical deduction<sup>a</sup> for all households, households with elderly, and households with disabled

Amount of medical deduction <sup>a</sup>	All households		Households with elderly <sup>b</sup>		Households with disabled <sup>c</sup>	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
None	6,997	97.0	1,204	85.5	651	98.2
\$1 - 25	46	0.6	44	3.1	2	0.3
26 - 50	46	0.6	44	3.1	2	0.3
51 - 75	27	0.4	24	1.7	3	0.5
76 - 100	40	0.6	40	2.9	0	0.0
101 - 150	18	0.3	17	1.2	1	0.1
151 - 200	19	0.3	15	1.1	3	0.5
201 - 300	15	0.2	14	1.0	1	0.1
301+	6	0.1	6	0.4	0	0.0
Total <sup>d</sup>	7,213	100.0	1,408	100.0	663	100.0

Average medical deduction for claiming households = \$90

<sup>a</sup>Available only to households where at least one member is age 60 or more, or at least one member receives SSI and no member is age 60 or more. Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

<sup>b</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>c</sup>Households with SSI income and no member age 60 or more.

<sup>d</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-24--Distribution of participating households by amount of monthly food stamp benefit<sup>a</sup>

Amount of monthly benefit <sup>a</sup>	Number of households (thousands)	Percent of all households
\$10 or less	549	7.6
11 - 25	378	5.2
26 - 50	642	8.9
51 - 75	668	9.3
76 - 100	1,185	16.4
101 - 150	1,123	15.6
151 - 200	1,118	15.5
201 - 300	1,246	17.3
301 or more	304	4.2
Total <sup>b</sup>	7,213	100.0
Average monthly food stamp benefit = \$129		

<sup>a</sup>The maximum monthly benefit varies by area (see appendix F).

<sup>b</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.



Appendix Table A-25--Average monthly food stamp benefit by gross monthly income and household size

Gross monthly income	Household size								Average food stamp benefit
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+	
	(dollars)								
None	\$90	\$165	\$237	\$301	\$356	\$427	\$472	\$646	\$158
\$1-99	90	165	236	300	356	--	472	--	150
100-199	87	158	229	300	354	419	--	540	153
200-299	76	145	215	283	334	398	451	--	172
300-399	39	122	193	252	310	375	426	490	109
400-499	29	95	169	220	291	357	385	555	110
500-599	17	65	139	199	255	326	371	438	116
600-699	14	46	102	177	228	285	337	448	124
700-799	10	26	92	144	211	268	296	399	131
800-899	10	23	81	119	172	241	294	397	133
900-999	10	11	63	107	141	231	287	331	144
1000+	10	27	42	82	114	150	205	294	133
Average benefit per household	51	105	161	196	232	269	297	373	129

-- No sample households in this category.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-26--Distribution of households by FSP benefit  
as a percent of maximum benefit and household poverty status

Gross income as a percentage of the poverty line <sup>a</sup>	Percent of maximum benefit													
	All households		Minimum <sup>b</sup>		<25% <sup>c</sup>		25 - 50%		51 - 75%		76 - 99%		Maximum <sup>d</sup>	
	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent
<b>All households<sup>e</sup></b>														
Total	7,213	100.0	547	100.0	565	100.0	1,396	100.0	1,786	100.0	1,625	100.0	1,294	100.0
No income	503	7.0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	503	38.9
1 - 50	2,243	31.1	--	--	--	--	--	--	393	22.0	1,149	70.7	701	54.2
51 - 100	3,883	53.8	330	60.3	391	69.2	1,243	89.1	1,358	76.0	473	29.1	88	6.8
101 - 130	536	7.4	182	33.3	168	29.7	152	10.9	29	1.6	3	0.2	2	0.2
131+	48	0.7	35	6.5	6	1.0	1	0.1	6	0.3	--	--	--	--
<b>Households with an elderly member<sup>f</sup></b>														
Total	1,408	100.0	360	100.0	246	100.0	332	100.0	242	100.0	119	100.0	108	100.0
No income	20	1.4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	20	18.2
1 - 50	72	5.1	--	--	--	--	--	--	15	6.0	17	14.6	40	37.0
51 - 100	1,122	79.7	237	65.8	209	84.7	311	93.6	219	90.4	101	84.5	46	43.0
101 - 130	177	12.6	113	31.4	35	14.1	21	6.4	5	2.0	1	0.9	2	1.9
131+	17	1.2	10	2.8	3	1.2	--	--	4	1.5	--	--	--	--
<b>Households with earned income<sup>g</sup></b>														
Total	1,406	100.0	38	100.0	123	100.0	375	100.0	448	100.0	262	100.0	160	100.0
No income	0	0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	0.2
1 - 50	326	23.2	--	--	--	--	--	--	47	10.5	133	50.6	146	91.8
51 - 100	782	55.6	2	4.9	11	9.3	252	67.0	376	84.0	128	48.8	13	8.0
101 - 130	279	19.8	25	66.0	108	87.3	123	32.7	22	4.9	2	0.7	--	--
131	19	1.3	11	29.1	4	3.4	1	0.3	2	0.5	--	--	--	--
<b>Households with children<sup>h</sup></b>														
Total	4,337	100.0	45	100.0	220	100.0	909	100.0	1,333	100.0	1,243	100.0	588	100.0
No income	232	5.3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	232	39.4
1 - 50	1,709	39.4	--	--	--	--	--	--	353	26.5	1,002	80.6	353	60.1
51 - 100	2,084	48.0	3	5.9	97	44.0	785	86.4	958	71.9	238	19.2	3	0.5
101 - 130	290	6.7	26	58.2	119	54.2	123	13.5	19	1.4	3	0.2	--	--
131+	23	0.5	16	36.0	4	1.8	1	0.1	2	0.2	--	--	--	--
<b>Households with AFDC income</b>														
Total	3,019	100.0	37	100.0	116	100.0	604	100.0	981	100.0	1,019	100.0	262	100.0
No income	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
1 - 50	1,422	47.1	--	--	--	--	--	--	299	30.5	864	84.9	259	98.6
51 - 100	1,500	49.7	3	9.2	85	73.7	582	96.2	672	68.5	154	15.1	4	1.4
101 - 130	79	2.6	19	51.9	30	26.1	23	3.8	7	0.7	--	--	--	--
131+	17	0.6	14	38.9	0	0.2	--	--	2	0.3	--	--	--	--

<sup>a</sup>Defined as the 1989 poverty thresholds published by the Department of Health and Human Services (see appendix C).

<sup>b</sup>Minimum benefit is \$10 for one- and two-person households.

<sup>c</sup>This category does not include households with the minimum benefit.

<sup>d</sup>The value of the maximum benefit varies depending on region (see appendix F).

<sup>e</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

<sup>f</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>g</sup>Earned income includes wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

<sup>h</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

-- No households in this category.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-27--Distribution of participating households by total countable resources for all households and households with elderly or disabled

Value of countable resources <sup>a</sup>	All households		Households with elderly <sup>b</sup>		Households with elderly or disabled <sup>c</sup>	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
None	5,412	75.0	875	62.2	1,355	65.4
\$1 - 500	1,395	19.3	350	24.9	492	23.8
501 - 1,000	243	3.4	104	7.4	129	6.2
1,001 - 1,500	97	1.3	40	2.9	56	2.7
1,501 - 1,750	29	0.4	15	1.0	16	0.8
1,751 - 2,000	20	0.3	11	0.8	11	0.5
2,001 - 3,000	15	0.2	13	0.9	13	0.6
Unknown	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total <sup>d</sup>	7,213	100.0	1,408	100.0	2,071	100.0

Average value of countable resources for all households = \$84

Average value of countable resources for elderly households = \$184

Average value of countable resources for elderly or disabled households = \$152

<sup>a</sup>Defined as cash on hand, assets which can be easily converted to cash, such as money in checking or savings accounts, savings certificates, stocks or bonds, and lump sum payments. They also include some nonliquid assets, although the family home, one or more family vehicles if necessary to transport disabled persons or to produce income, and business tools or property are not counted.

<sup>b</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>c</sup>Households where at least one member is age 60 or more, or at least one member receives SSI and no member is age 60 or more.

<sup>d</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-28--Distribution of participating households  
by type of most recent action and expedited service

Most recent action	Number of households (thousands)	Percent of all households
Initial certification <sup>a</sup>	1,993	27.6
Expedited service <sup>b</sup>	260	3.6
No expedited service	1,732	24.0
Recertification	5,221	72.4
Expedited service	53	0.7
No expedited service	5,168	71.7
Total <sup>c</sup>	7,213	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Includes both households certified for the first time and previously certified households who have not received benefits for at least 30 days.

<sup>b</sup>Households which initially received expedited service for the certification period in effect in July or August 1989.

<sup>c</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-29--Distribution of participating households  
by length of certification period

Months in certification period	All households		Households with elderly <sup>a</sup>		Households with earnings <sup>b</sup>		Households with children <sup>c</sup>		Households with disabled <sup>d</sup>		Households with AFDC income	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
1	49	0.7	3	0.2	10	0.7	30	0.7	2	0.4	10	0.3
2	59	0.8	2	0.1	15	1.1	37	0.8	4	0.7	13	0.4
3	300	4.2	10	0.7	112	8.0	184	4.2	20	3.1	67	2.2
4	164	2.3	19	1.4	19	1.4	98	2.3	9	1.3	72	2.4
5	101	1.4	3	0.2	18	1.3	63	1.4	7	1.0	53	1.8
6	1,600	22.2	115	8.2	451	32.1	1,200	27.7	124	18.7	752	24.9
7	285	3.9	10	0.7	44	3.2	219	5.0	18	2.7	184	6.1
8	128	1.8	4	0.3	15	1.1	103	2.4	12	1.8	74	2.5
9	72	1.0	8	0.6	16	1.1	42	1.0	2	0.3	33	1.1
10	98	1.4	16	1.1	19	1.3	59	1.4	6	0.9	49	1.6
11	181	2.5	32	2.3	30	2.2	107	2.5	19	2.9	86	2.8
12	3,645	50.5	1,093	77.6	591	42.0	1,835	42.3	418	63.1	1,305	43.2
13+	531	7.4	91	6.5	66	4.7	361	8.3	22	3.3	321	10.6
Unknown	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0
Total <sup>e</sup>	7,213	100.0	1,408	100.0	1,406	100.0	4,337	100.0	663	100.0	3,019	100.0
Average length of certification in months = 9.7												

<sup>a</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more

<sup>b</sup>Earned income includes wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

<sup>c</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>d</sup>Households with SSI income and no member age 60 or more.

<sup>e</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-30--Distribution of participating households  
by household size

Household size	All households		Households with elderly <sup>a</sup>		Households with earnings <sup>b</sup>		Households with children <sup>c</sup>		Households with disabled <sup>d</sup>		Households with AFDC income	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
1	2,326	32.3	1,026	72.8	156	11.1	42	1.0	323	48.7	42	1.4
2	1,653	22.9	263	18.7	267	19.0	1,163	26.8	114	17.2	936	31.0
3	1,415	19.6	51	3.6	322	22.9	1,332	30.7	103	15.6	964	31.9
4	954	13.2	30	2.1	311	22.1	942	21.7	65	9.8	570	18.9
5	517	7.2	20	1.4	194	13.8	514	11.8	27	4.1	319	10.6
6	194	2.7	6	0.4	84	6.0	193	4.4	17	2.6	105	3.5
7	81	1.1	4	0.3	35	2.5	81	1.9	7	1.0	46	1.5
8+	73	1.0	8	0.6	35	2.5	71	1.6	7	1.1	36	1.2
Total <sup>e</sup>	7,213	100.0	1,408	100.0	1,406	100.0	4,337	100.0	663	100.0	3,019	100.0
Average size	2.6		1.5		3.5		3.5		2.2		3.3	

<sup>a</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>b</sup>Earned income includes wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

<sup>c</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>d</sup>Households with SSI income and no member age 60 or more.

<sup>e</sup>From the Survey of Income and Program Participation, 1992.

Appendix Table A-31--Household composition of participating households

Household type:	Number of households (thousands)	Percent of all households
Single adults		
Female	1,439	20.0
Male	845	11.7
Subtotal	2,285	31.7
Multiple adults without children <sup>b</sup>		
Female head, no spouse	206	2.9
Male head, no spouse	43	0.6
Female head, spouse present	110	1.5
Male head, spouse present	232	3.2
Subtotal	591	8.2
Single adults with children		
Female head	2,901	40.2
Male head	105	1.5
Subtotal	3,006	41.7
Multiple adults with children		
Female head	732	10.2
Male head	465	6.4
Unknown	4	0.1
Subtotal	1,201	16.6
Children only	131	1.8
Total <sup>a</sup>	7,213	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

<sup>b</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-32--Distribution of participating households by household size,  
number of elderly, number of children, preschool-age children,  
and school-age children--

	Household size								Number of households (thousands)
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+	
Number of elderly <sup>a</sup>									
0	1,301	1,390	1,364	924	497	188	77	65	5,806
1	1,026	121	37	27	19	6	4	5	1,245
2	**	142	14	3	1	--	0	3	162
Number of children <sup>b</sup>									
0	2,285	490	83	12	3	1	--	2	2,876
1	42	1,110	344	70	12	1	2	1	1,581
2	**	53	974	367	62	8	0	1	1,466
3	**	**	14	502	232	25	1	3	778
4	**	**	**	3	204	112	19	4	343
5+	**	**	**	**	3	47	58	61	170
Number of school-age children <sup>c</sup>									
0	2,306	1,011	413	137	41	4	2	4	3,917
1	20	615	520	235	88	15	2	3	1,498
2	**	27	478	353	140	45	13	5	1,060
3	**	**	4	228	162	68	16	10	488
4	**	**	**	0	86	50	25	14	175
5+	**	**	**	**	0	13	23	38	75
Number of preschool- age children <sup>d</sup>									
0	2,305	1,115	750	459	215	70	26	15	4,955
1	22	530	484	316	173	61	22	28	1,636
2	**	8	179	158	96	49	26	20	535
3	**	**	2	21	29	13	6	6	76
4	**	**	**	--	4	1	1	4	10
Total <sup>e</sup>									
	2,326	1,653	1,415	954	517	194	81	73	7,213

<sup>a</sup>Persons age 60 or more.

<sup>b</sup>Persons age 17 or less.

<sup>c</sup>Persons age 5 to 17.

<sup>d</sup>Persons less than age 15.

<sup>e</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

\*\* By definition, these are mutually exclusive categories; therefore, no households will be found in this category.

-- No sample households in this category.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.



Appendix Table A-33--Distribution of participants by age and sex

Age	Female		Male		Unknown		All participants	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
4 or less	1,444	7.7	1,532	8.2	1	0.0	2,977	16.0
5 - 17	3,117	16.7	3,075	16.5	3	0.0	6,194	33.2
18 - 35	3,571	19.1	1,209	6.5	0	0.0	4,781	25.6
36 - 59	1,740	9.3	987	5.3	0	0.0	2,727	14.6
60 or more	1,133	6.1	438	2.3	--	--	1,570	8.4
Unknown	204	1.1	198	1.1	--	--	402	2.2
Total <sup>a</sup>	11,208	60.1	7,438	39.9	5	0.0	18,652	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

-- No sample households in this category.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-34--Distribution of participants by Thrifty Food Plan sex-age groups and by household size

	All participants	Household size							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+
Children under age 12									
0 - 2 years	1,618	18	338	482	352	243	87	47	52
3 - 5 years	2,011	3	283	554	522	343	157	75	73
6 - 8 years	1,800	4	169	405	547	346	172	76	81
9 - 11 years	1,524	3	143	359	396	280	168	89	86
Males over age 12									
12 - 14 years	591	--	59	140	146	128	60	20	39
15 - 19 years	662	14	100	158	160	116	49	26	40
20 - 50 years	1,729	508	176	251	339	229	128	46	51
51+ years	776	342	258	62	59	30	11	3	11
Unknown age	198	--	49	58	37	27	6	9	11
Females over age 12									
12 - 14 years	635	1	76	157	130	134	56	44	37
15 - 19 years	803	27	181	214	129	137	50	30	36
20 - 50 years	4,557	363	1,099	1,266	929	513	199	83	103
51+ years	1,623	1,061	356	95	50	31	14	7	10
Unknown age	204	8	34	53	37	35	12	14	12
Total*	18,652	2,326	3,305	4,245	3,815	2,585	1,165	568	642

\*Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

-- No households in this category.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-35--Age-related characteristics of participants

	Number of participants (thousands)	Percent of participants
A. Children <sup>a</sup>	9,171	49.2
1. Preschool-age children <sup>b</sup>	2,977	16.0
2. School-age children <sup>c</sup>	6,194	33.2
B. Adults <sup>d</sup>	7,508	40.3
1. Parents	5,441	29.2
a. Single parents	2,999	16.1
Living with elderly	44	0.2
Disabled	116	0.6
Living with disabled	41	0.2
Other	2,799	15.0
b. Multiple adults	2,442	13.1
Living with elderly	67	0.4
Disabled	110	0.6
Living with disabled	161	0.9
Other	2,105	11.3
2. Nonparents	2,067	11.1
a. Single adults	1,418	7.6
Living with elderly	95	0.5
Disabled	318	1.7
Living with disabled	0	0.0
Other	1,005	5.4
b. Multiple adults	649	3.5
Living with elderly	44	0.2
Disabled	82	0.4
Living with disabled	84	0.4
Other	440	2.4
C. Elderly <sup>e</sup>	1,570	8.4
D. Unknown age	402	2.2
Total <sup>f</sup>	18,652	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Persons age 17 or less.

<sup>b</sup>Persons age 5 to 17.

<sup>c</sup>Persons less than age 5.

<sup>d</sup>Persons age 18 to 59.

<sup>e</sup>Persons age 60 or more.

<sup>f</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-36--Distribution of participating households by  
race or ethnic origin of household head

Race/ethnic origin of household head	Number of households (thousands)	Percent of all households
White	3,334	46.2
Black	2,684	37.2
Hispanic	899	12.5
Asian	118	1.6
American Indian	71	1.0
Unknown	108	1.5
Total*	7,213	100.0

\*Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-37--Distribution of participating households by  
selected characteristics of household members

Households with at least one:	Number of households (thousands)	Percent of all households
Alien	99	1.4
Migrant	1	0.0
Military	2	0.0
Striker	48	0.7
Student <sup>a</sup>	418	5.8

<sup>a</sup>Household member age 18 years or older enrolled at least half time in a recognized school, training program, or institution of higher education.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-38--Distribution of participating households by  
employment status of household head

Employment status of household head	Number of households (thousands)	Percent of all households
Employed full time <sup>a</sup>	582	8.1
Employed part time <sup>b</sup>	255	3.5
Self-employed	42	0.6
Farm employed	4	0.1
Not employed	4,915	68.1
Employed, other	101	1.4
Self-initiated education and training	203	2.8
Unemployed	789	10.9
Unknown	322	4.5
Total <sup>c</sup>	7,213	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Employed at least 30 hours per week or receiving weekly earnings equal to or greater than the Federal minimum wage multiplied by 30 hours.

<sup>b</sup>Employed less than 30 hours per week.

<sup>c</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-39--Distribution of participating households by work registration status of household head

Work registration status of household head	Number of households (thousands)	Percent of households
Required to register for work <sup>a</sup>	2,051	28.4
Exempt from work registration:	5,078	70.4
Under or over required age <sup>b</sup>	1,139	15.8
Disabled	1,099	15.2
Pregnant	46	0.6
Complying with work for another program	63	0.9
Caretaker of child or incapacitated adult <sup>c</sup>	1,746	24.2
Recipient of Unemployment Insurance (UI)	71	1.0
Participant in drug addiction or alcoholic treatment program	47	0.7
Employed full time <sup>d</sup>	626	8.7
Student <sup>e</sup>	43	0.6
Program not offered	101	1.4
Other	97	1.3
Volunteers	58	0.8
Unknown	27	0.4
Total <sup>f</sup>	7,213	100.00

<sup>a</sup>Household heads required to register for work under the FSP, or for WIN, IVA, or JOBS. In previous reports in this series, this category referred to FSP work registrants only.

<sup>b</sup>Under the required age includes persons less than age 18. However, the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, requires 16- and 17-year-olds who are household heads and who are not in school or otherwise exempt to register for work. Over the required age includes persons age 60 or more.

<sup>c</sup>Includes both caretakers of children under 6 and caretakers of children under 18 where another able-bodied parent is registered for work or exempted because of employment.

<sup>d</sup>Employed at least 30 hours per week or receiving weekly earnings equal to or greater than the Federal minimum wage multiplied by 30 hours.

<sup>e</sup>Enrolled at least half time in a recognized school, training program, or institution of higher education.

<sup>f</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-40--Distribution of participants by work registration status

Work registration status	Number of participants (thousands)	Percent of participants
Required to register for work <sup>a</sup>	2,908	15.6
Exempt from work registration:	15,594	83.6
Under or over required age <sup>b</sup>	10,077	54.0
Disabled	1,350	7.2
Pregnant	55	0.3
Complying with work for another program	73	0.4
Caretaker of child or incapacitated adult <sup>c</sup>	2,115	11.3
Recipient of Unemployment Insurance (UI)	90	0.5
Participant in drug addiction or alcoholic treatment program	49	0.3
Employed full time <sup>d</sup>	869	4.7
Student <sup>e</sup>	510	2.7
Program not offered	264	1.4
Other	142	0.8
Volunteers	68	0.4
Unknown	80	0.4
Total <sup>f</sup>	18,652	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Household heads required to register for work under the FSP, or for WIN, IVA, or JOBS. In previous reports in this series, this category referred to FSP work registrants only.

<sup>b</sup>Under the required age includes persons less than age 18. However, the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, requires 16- and 17-year-olds who are household heads and who are not in school or otherwise exempt to register for work. Over the required age includes persons age 60 or more.

<sup>c</sup>Includes both caretakers of children under 6 and caretakers of children under 18 where another able-bodied parent is registered for work or exempted because of employment.

<sup>d</sup>Employed at least 30 hours per week or receiving weekly earnings equal to or greater than the Federal minimum wage multiplied by 30 hours.

<sup>e</sup>Enrolled at least half time in a recognized school, training program, or institution of higher education.

<sup>f</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.



Appendix Table A-41--Distribution of participating households, benefits, and participants  
for households with and without earned income

Households with:	Households		Benefits		Participants <sup>a</sup>	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Value (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
Earned income <sup>b</sup>	1,406	19.5	\$215,001	23.1	4,924	26.4
No earned income	5,808	80.5	\$715,148	76.9	13,728	73.6
Total <sup>c</sup>	7,213	100.0	\$930,149	100.0	18,652	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Number and percent of participants in households with and without earned income.

<sup>b</sup>Earned income includes wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

<sup>c</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-42--Average value of selected characteristics for participating households with and without earned income

	Households with earned income <sup>a</sup>	Households with no earned income
Gross monthly income (dollars)	\$667	\$389
Net monthly income (dollars)	371	217
Total deductions <sup>b</sup> (dollars)	307	195
Countable resources (dollars)	124	74
Monthly benefit (dollars)	153	123
Household size (persons)	3.5	2.4
Certification period (months)	8.8	9.9

<sup>a</sup>Earned income includes wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

<sup>b</sup>Includes earned income, dependent care, excess shelter, medical, and standard deductions (see appendix E). Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-43--Distribution of participating households with and without earned income for selected characteristics

	Households with earned income <sup>a</sup>		Households with no earned income	
	Number (thousands)	Percent <sup>b</sup>	Number (thousands)	Percent <sup>b</sup>
Zero gross income	**	**	502	8.6
Zero net income	160	11.3	1,134	19.5
Minimum benefit <sup>c</sup>	38	2.7	510	8.8
Elderly <sup>d</sup>	56	4.0	1,352	23.3
Children <sup>e</sup>	1,134	80.7	3,203	55.2
School-age children <sup>f</sup>	915	65.1	2,381	41.0
Preschool-age children <sup>g</sup>	555	39.5	1,703	29.3
Household size				
1	156	11.1	2,170	37.4
2	267	19.0	1,385	23.9
3	322	22.9	1,093	18.8
4	311	22.1	643	11.1
5+	349	24.8	517	8.9

<sup>a</sup>Earned income includes wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

<sup>b</sup>Percent figures do not add to 100 because a household can have more than one of the characteristics included in the table.

<sup>c</sup>Minimum benefit is \$10 for one- and two-person households.

<sup>d</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>e</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>f</sup>Households with at least one member age 5 to 17.

<sup>g</sup>Households with at least one member less than age 5.

<sup>\*\*</sup>By definition, these are mutually exclusive categories; therefore, no households will be found in this category.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-44--Distribution of participating households, benefits, and participants  
for households with and without elderly

Households with:	Households		Benefits		Participants <sup>a</sup>	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Value (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
Elderly <sup>b</sup>	1,408	19.5	\$73,597	7.9	2,079	11.1
No elderly	5,806	80.5	\$856,551	92.1	16,573	88.9
Total <sup>c</sup>	7,213	100.0	\$930,149	100.0	18,652	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Number and percent of participants in households with and without elderly persons.

<sup>b</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>c</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-45--Average value of selected characteristics for participating households with and without elderly

	Households with elderly <sup>a</sup>	Households with no elderly
Gross monthly income (dollars)	451	441
Net monthly income (dollars)	254	245
Total deductions <sup>b</sup> (dollars)	204	219
Countable resources <sup>c</sup> (dollars)	184	59
Monthly benefit (dollars)	52	148
Household size (persons)	1.5	2.9
Certification period (months)	11.6	9.2

<sup>a</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>b</sup>Includes earned income, dependent care, excess shelter, medical, and standard deductions (see appendix E). Deductions shown are those deductions to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

<sup>c</sup>The resource limit for most households was \$2,000. However, households with at least one member age 60 or older were allowed up to \$3,000.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-46--Distribution of participating households with and without elderly for selected characteristics

	Households with elderly <sup>a</sup>		Households with no elderly	
	Number (thousands)	Percent <sup>b</sup>	Number (thousands)	Percent <sup>b</sup>
Zero gross income	20	1.4	482	8.3
Zero net income	108	7.7	1,186	20.4
Minimum benefit <sup>c</sup>	360	25.6	187	3.2
Children <sup>d</sup>	132	9.4	4,205	72.4
School-age children <sup>e</sup>	123	8.8	3,173	54.6
Preschool-age children <sup>f</sup>	41	2.9	2,217	38.2
Household size and sex of head				
1 female	836	59.4	616	10.6
1 male	190	13.5	663	11.4
2	263	18.7	1,390	23.9
3	51	3.6	1,364	23.5
4	30	2.1	924	15.9
5+	38	2.7	827	14.2
Unknown	0	0.0	22	0.4

<sup>a</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>b</sup>Percent figures do not add to 100 because a household can have more than one of the characteristics included in the table.

<sup>c</sup>Minimum benefit is \$10 for one- and two-person households.

<sup>d</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>e</sup>Households with at least one member age 5 to 17.

<sup>f</sup>Households with at least one member less than age 5.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-47--Distribution of participating households, benefits, and participants  
for households with and without disabled

Households with:	Households		Benefits		Participants <sup>a</sup>	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Value (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
Disabled <sup>b</sup>	663	9.2	\$52,200	5.6	1,470	7.9
No disabled	6,551	90.8	\$877,949	94.4	17,182	92.1
Total <sup>c</sup>	7,213	100.0	\$930,149	100.0	18,652	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Number and percent of participants in households with and without disabled persons.

<sup>b</sup>Households with SSI income and no member age 60 or more.

<sup>c</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-48--Average value of selected characteristics for participating households with and without disabled

	Households with disabled <sup>a</sup>	Households with no disabled
Gross monthly income (dollars)	520	435
Net monthly income (dollars)	332	238
Total deductions <sup>b</sup> (dollars)	190	219
Countable resources (dollars)	84	84
Monthly benefit (dollars)	79	134
Household size (persons)	2.2	2.6
Certification period (months)	10.2	9.6

<sup>a</sup>Households with SSI income and no member age 60 or more.

<sup>b</sup>Includes earned income, dependent care, excess shelter, medical, and standard deductions (see appendix E). Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.



Appendix Table A-49--Distribution of participating households with and without disabled for selected characteristics

	Households with disabled <sup>a</sup>		Households with no disabled	
	Number (thousands)	Percent <sup>b</sup>	Number (thousands)	Percent <sup>b</sup>
Zero gross income	**	**	502	7.7
Zero net income	20	3.1	1,273	19.4
Minimum benefit <sup>c</sup>	95	14.3	452	6.9
Children <sup>d</sup>	272	41.0	4,066	62.1
School-age children <sup>e</sup>	242	36.6	3,054	46.6
Preschool-age children <sup>f</sup>	76	11.5	2,182	33.3
Household Size				
1	323	48.7	2,004	30.6
2	114	17.2	1,539	23.5
3	103	15.6	1,312	20.0
4	65	9.8	889	13.6
5+	58	8.8	807	12.3

<sup>a</sup>Households with SSI income and no member age 60 or more.

<sup>b</sup>Percent figures do not add to 100 because a household can have more than one of the characteristics included in the table.

<sup>c</sup>Minimum benefit is \$10 for one- and two-person households.

<sup>d</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>e</sup>Households with at least one member age 5 to 17.

<sup>f</sup>Households with at least one member less than age 5.

<sup>g</sup>By definition, these are mutually exclusive categories; therefore, no households will be found in this category.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-50--Distribution of participating households and benefits for households with children, school-age children, preschool-age children, and no children

Households with:	Households		Benefits		Participants <sup>a</sup>	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Value (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
Children <sup>b</sup>	4,337	60.1	\$753,734	81.0	15,046	80.7
School-age children <sup>c</sup>	3,296	45.7	601,411	64.7	12,265	65.8
Preschool-age children <sup>d</sup>	2,258	31.3	413,591	44.5	8,224	44.1
No children	2,876	39.9	176,415	19.0	3,606	19.3
Total <sup>e</sup>	7,213	100.0	930,149	100.0	18,652	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Number and percent of participants in households with children, school-age children, preschool-age children, and without children.

<sup>b</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>c</sup>Households with at least one member age 5 to 17.

<sup>d</sup>Households with at least one member less than age 5.

<sup>e</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-51--Average value of selected characteristics for participating households with children, school-age children, preschool-age children, and no children

	Households with children <sup>a</sup>	Households with school-age children <sup>b</sup>	Households with preschool-age children <sup>c</sup>	Households with no children
Gross monthly income (dollars)	\$507	\$535	\$509	\$346
Net monthly income (dollars)	298	323	303	170
Total deductions <sup>d</sup> (dollars)	226	229	222	201
Countable resources (dollars)	60	58	65	119
Monthly benefit (dollars)	174	182	183	61
Household size (persons)	3.5	3.7	3.6	1.3
Certification period (months)	9.2	9.3	9.2	10.4

<sup>a</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>b</sup>Households with at least one member age 5 to 17.

<sup>c</sup>Households with at least one member less than age 5.

<sup>d</sup>Includes earned income, dependent care, excess shelter, medical, and standard deductions (see appendix E). Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-52--Distribution of participating households with children, school-age children, preschool-age children, and no children for selected characteristics

	Households with children <sup>a</sup>		Households with school-age children <sup>b</sup>		Households with preschool-age children <sup>c</sup>		Households with no children	
	Number (thousands)	Percent <sup>d</sup>	Number (thousands)	Percent <sup>d</sup>	Number (thousands)	Percent <sup>d</sup>	Number (thousands)	Percent <sup>d</sup>
Zero gross income	231	5.3	165	5.0	116	5.1	271	9.4
Zero net income	588	13.6	426	12.9	291	12.9	705	24.5
Minimum benefit <sup>e</sup>	45	1.0	34	1.0	11	0.5	503	17.5
Elderly <sup>f</sup>	132	3.1	123	3.7	41	1.8	1,275	44.3
School-age children <sup>b</sup>	3,296	76.0	3,296	100.0	1,217	53.9	0	0.0
Household size								
1	42	1.0	20	0.6	22	1.0	2,285	79.4
2	1,163	26.8	642	19.5	538	23.8	490	17.0
3	1,332	30.7	1,002	30.4	665	29.4	83	2.9
4	942	21.7	817	24.8	495	21.9	12	0.4
5+	858	19.8	815	24.7	539	23.9	7	0.2

<sup>a</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>b</sup>Households with at least one member age 5 to 17.

<sup>c</sup>Households with at least one member less than age 5.

<sup>d</sup>Percent figures do not add to 100 because a household can have more than one of the characteristics included in the table.

<sup>e</sup>Minimum benefit is \$10 for one- and two-person households.

<sup>f</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-53--Distribution of participating households, benefits, and participants  
for households with and without AFDC income

Households with:	Households		Benefits		Participants <sup>a</sup>	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Value (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
AFDC income	3,019	41.8	\$506,973	54.5	9,950	53.3
No AFDC income	4,195	58.2	\$423,175	45.5	8,702	46.7
Total <sup>b</sup>	7,213	100.0	\$930,149	100.0	18,652	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Number and percent of participants in households with and without AFDC income.

<sup>b</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-54--Average value of selected characteristics for participating households with and without AFDC income

	Households with AFDC income	Households with no AFDC income
Gross monthly income (dollars)	476	419
Net monthly income (dollars)	281	223
Total deductions <sup>a</sup> (dollars)	200	228
Countable resources (dollars)	36	118
Monthly benefit (dollars)	168	101
Household size (persons)	3.3	2.1
Certification period (months)	9.5	9.8

<sup>a</sup>Includes earned income, dependent care, excess shelter, medical, and standard deductions (see appendix E). Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-55--Distribution of participating households with and without  
AFDC income for selected characteristics

	Households with AFDC income		Households with no AFDC income	
	Number (thousands)	Percent <sup>a</sup>	Number (thousands)	Percent <sup>a</sup>
Zero gross income	**	**	502	12.0
Zero net income	262	8.7	1,031	24.6
Minimum benefit <sup>b</sup>	37	1.2	511	12.2
Elderly <sup>c</sup>	74	2.4	1,334	31.8
Children <sup>d</sup>	2,910	96.4	1,427	34.0
School-age children <sup>e</sup>	2,155	71.4	1,141	27.2
Preschool-age children <sup>f</sup>	1,585	52.5	674	16.1
Household size				
1	42	1.4	2,285	54.5
2	936	31.0	717	17.1
3	964	31.9	451	10.7
4	570	18.9	384	9.1
5+	507	16.8	359	8.6

<sup>a</sup>Percent figures do not add to 100 because a household can have more than one of the characteristics included in the table.

<sup>b</sup>Minimum benefit is \$10 for one- and two-person households.

<sup>c</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>d</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>e</sup>Households with at least one member age 5 to 17.

<sup>f</sup>Households with at least one member less than age 5.

<sup>\*\*</sup> By definition, these are mutually exclusive categories; therefore, no households will be found in this category.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table A-56--Comparison of average value of selected characteristics for August 1980 - Summer 1989

	August 1980 <sup>a</sup>	August 1981	August 1982	Feb. 1983	August 1983	August 1984	Summer 1985	Summer 1986	Summer 1987	Winter 1988	Summer 1988	Summer 1989
Gross monthly income (dollars)	326	349	356	376	379	390	398	417	426	434	433	443
Net monthly income (dollars)	194	196	205	208	224	229	226	232	239	243	242	247
Total deduction <sup>b</sup> (dollars)	148	169	159	175	170	177	191	203	205	213	211	216
Countable resources (dollars)	66	62	58	73	54	58	63	71	79	82	92	84
Monthly benefit (dollars)	89	103	105	127	116	114	116	120	120	130	127	129
Household size (persons)	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.6

<sup>a</sup>Excludes Alaska and Hawaii

<sup>b</sup>Includes earned income, dependent care, excess shelter, medical and standard deductions (see appendix E). Deductions are those to which households are entitled. Some deductions may not have been used before a household reached zero net income status.

Sources: August 1980 - Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control samples.



Appendix Table A-57--Comparison of percentage of participating households with selected characteristics for August 1980 - Summer 1989

Households with:	August 1980 <sup>a</sup>	August 1981	August 1982	Feb. 1983	August 1983	August 1984	August 1985	Summer 1986	Summer 1987	Winter 1988	Summer 1988	Summer 1989
Zero gross income	8.1 <sup>1</sup>	7.3	7.8	5.4	6.6	6.5	6.8	6.0	6.0	6.9	6.6	7.0
Zero net income	16.6	18.7	18.9	18.4	16.4	17.5	19.8	18.6	17.7	18.6	18.3	17.9
Minimum benefit <sup>b</sup>	6.9	5.6	7.5	4.5	7.5	9.6	8.5	8.5	8.9	6.7	7.6	7.6
Elderly <sup>c</sup>	22.6	20.9	19.6	18.1	20.2	22.1	21.4	20.2	20.5	20.3	19.1	19.5
Children <sup>d</sup>	59.9	56.4	58.2	68.1	63.8	60.9	59.2	61.2	61.2	61.3	60.9	60.1
School-age children <sup>e</sup>	44.4	44.2	49.2	51.6	47.3	46.3	47.4	47.8	47.8	46.9	46.6	45.7

<sup>a</sup>Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

<sup>b</sup>Minimum benefit is \$10 for one- or two-person households.

<sup>c</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>d</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>e</sup>Households with at least one member age 5 to 17.

Sources: August 1980 - Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control samples.

## **APPENDIX B**

### **DETAILED TABLES OF FSP CHARACTERISTICS: STATE DATA**

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Appendix Table B-2--Average values of selected characteristics by State

State	Average Monthly Values				Certification period (months)	Household size (persons)
	Gross income (dollars)	Net income (dollars)	Total deduction (dollars)*	Countable assets (dollars)	Food stamp benefit (dollars)	
Alabama	398	226	203	128	146	10.2
Alaska	660	426	288	103	201	10.0
Arizona	397	212	217	66	169	6.7
Arkansas	442	264	198	170	128	8.3
California	593	418	203	48	102	11.9
Colorado	422	220	233	72	137	8.1
Connecticut	563	369	200	138	100	6.9
Delaware	407	211	218	65	144	7.9
District of Columbia	388	216	187	22	118	9.8
Florida	398	180	244	96	141	8.0
Georgia	419	242	199	133	136	11.5
Hawaii	564	322	259	191	206	11.8
Idaho	436	218	256	150	153	11.3
Illinois	366	185	200	39	139	11.3
Indiana	423	240	205	107	147	7.1
Iowa	457	258	213	122	123	11.2
Kansas	471	257	225	105	124	11.6
Kentucky	377	228	179	74	147	6.2
Louisiana	398	207	221	63	164	7.7
Maine	511	261	270	231	109	8.2
Maryland	409	221	199	134	125	7.7
Massachusetts	531	322	219	79	86	10.6
Michigan	464	251	226	52	119	12.4
Minnesota	502	281	236	147	112	10.5
Mississippi	449	234	242	118	146	12.9
Missouri	434	232	220	121	138	9.8
Montana	424	216	227	105	143	11.4
Nebraska	462	274	210	194	122	8.3
Nevada	338	166	219	58	126	10.7
New Hampshire	430	276	178	155	85	7.2
New Jersey	423	210	225	23	137	9.6
New Mexico	407	230	203	132	164	11.1
New York	498	259	245	64	107	8.0
North Carolina	435	248	203	172	124	10.1
North Dakota	504	282	240	450	129	11.7
Ohio	368	181	209	50	137	9.5
Oklahoma	449	259	210	74	126	11.0
Oregon	411	212	235	113	121	9.4
Pennsylvania	418	212	220	86	127	10.5
Rhode Island	514	312	208	89	93	7.9
South Carolina	429	243	204	95	145	11.8
South Dakota	476	242	261	243	150	12.0
Tennessee	407	235	195	135	137	8.5
Texas	381	214	206	55	166	8.8
Utah	447	247	225	83	145	6.9
Vermont	560	350	224	222	83	10.5
Virginia	405	236	192	135	122	9.0
Washington	468	273	211	63	116	7.4
West Virginia	399	211	213	61	148	10.7
Wisconsin	533	321	234	157	136	6.0
Wyoming	404	238	186	125	147	10.7
National Average	442	247	216	85	131	9.7

\*Includes earned income, dependent care, excess shelter, medical and standard deductions.

Source: 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table B-3--Distribution of participating households by poverty status by State

State	Gross income as a percentage of the poverty line <sup>a</sup>							
	50% or less		51% - 100%		101% or more		Total	
	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent
Alabama	68	43.4	77	49.1	12	7.4	157	100.0
Alaska	2	27.9	5	57.6	1	14.5	9	100.0
Arizona	54	60.3	29	32.6	6	7.1	90	100.0
Arkansas	29	35.3	46	54.9	8	9.7	83	100.0
California	93	14.9	493	79.0	38	6.1	624	100.0
Colorado	41	49.5	34	41.0	8	9.5	82	100.0
Connecticut	2	4.1	35	80.8	6	15.1	43	100.0
Delaware	6	57.7	4	34.5	1	7.8	11	100.0
District of Columbia	13	50.6	11	43.6	1	5.8	25	100.0
Florida	113	43.1	135	51.8	13	5.1	261	100.0
Georgia	80	44.2	89	49.1	12	6.7	181	100.0
Hawaii	4	12.0	25	81.6	2	6.4	31	100.0
Idaho	10	46.7	9	41.8	2	11.5	21	100.0
Illinois	252	62.7	130	32.4	20	4.9	402	100.0
Indiana	51	51.2	41	41.1	8	7.7	100	100.0
Iowa	21	31.9	38	57.4	7	10.7	67	100.0
Kansas	19	38.1	25	51.1	5	10.8	49	100.0
Kentucky	80	49.6	73	45.1	9	5.3	161	100.0
Louisiana	120	48.9	110	44.9	15	6.3	245	100.0
Maine	6	14.8	26	70.3	6	14.9	37	100.0
Maryland	63	59.5	37	35.2	6	5.2	106	100.0
Massachusetts	8	5.6	99	72.3	30	22.1	136	100.0
Michigan	76	20.8	261	71.9	26	7.3	363	100.0
Minnesota	20	20.0	68	69.9	10	10.1	98	100.0
Mississippi	61	35.6	95	55.3	16	9.1	172	100.0
Missouri	67	43.7	71	46.2	15	10.1	153	100.0
Montana	11	53.2	8	39.5	2	7.3	21	100.0
Nebraska	13	37.6	18	49.4	5	13.0	36	100.0
Nevada	10	53.4	7	37.0	2	9.5	19	100.0
New Hampshire	2	15.2	8	74.9	1	9.9	10	100.0
New Jersey	75	54.4	55	40.2	7	5.4	137	100.0
New Mexico	26	52.1	21	41.7	3	6.2	49	100.0
New York	84	12.9	502	77.3	64	9.8	650	100.0
North Carolina	57	36.8	83	54.3	14	8.9	154	100.0
North Dakota	5	32.9	8	53.3	2	13.8	14	100.0
Ohio	280	62.3	145	32.2	25	5.5	449	100.0
Oklahoma	41	40.0	51	49.6	11	10.4	102	100.0
Oregon	28	30.3	55	60.3	9	9.4	91	100.0
Pennsylvania	223	57.4	140	36.1	25	6.5	389	100.0
Rhode Island	1	4.9	21	83.2	3	11.9	25	100.0
South Carolina	40	41.9	49	52.2	6	5.9	95	100.0
South Dakota	7	40.7	8	48.1	2	11.2	17	100.0
Tennessee	83	43.3	91	47.3	18	9.4	193	100.0
Texas	288	53.1	222	41.0	32	5.9	542	100.0
Utah	17	49.9	15	43.5	2	6.6	34	100.0
Vermont	2	10.5	10	66.7	3	22.8	15	100.0
Virginia	60	43.5	67	48.4	11	8.1	138	100.0
Washington	17	14.3	94	79.3	8	6.3	118	100.0
West Virginia	46	48.7	43	45.3	6	6.0	94	100.0
Wisconsin	19	19.2	70	70.1	11	10.7	99	100.0
Wyoming	6	57.9	4	37.1	0	5.0	10	100.0
Total <sup>b</sup>	2,795	38.8	3,860	53.5	554	7.7	7,209	100.0

<sup>a</sup>Defined as the 1989 poverty thresholds published by the Department of Health and Human Services.<sup>b</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table B-4--Shelter-related characteristics of participating households by State

State	Average monthly shelter expense (dollars)	Households with shelter deduction		Average shelter deduction <sup>a</sup> (dollars)	Households at the shelter cap <sup>b</sup>	
		Number of Households (000s)	Percent		(000s)	Percent
Alabama	163	89	56.9	97	13	8.2
Alaska	236	4	46.6	156	1	7.6
Arizona	206	56	61.8	123	18	20.3
Arkansas	186	52	62.3	85	7	8.3
California	326	410	65.7	128	184	29.5
Colorado	257	58	70.9	129	22	26.5
Connecticut	309	25	58.5	144	12	27.6
Delaware	243	8	71.8	122	2	20.5
District of Columbia	191	14	55.9	128	3	11.5
Florida	254	211	80.7	133	41	15.6
Georgia	194	112	62.1	103	23	12.5
Hawaii	221	17	55.2	129	3	10.4
Idaho	249	16	74.5	128	5	25.9
Illinois	189	273	67.8	114	61	15.2
Indiana	185	56	56.2	109	14	14.2
Iowa	219	44	66.0	105	11	16.5
Kansas	264	37	75.8	119	12	25.0
Kentucky	140	77	47.7	89	12	7.1
Louisiana	207	165	67.6	117	40	16.4
Maine	362	30	80.7	165	13	33.8
Maryland	208	73	69.1	108	17	16.2
Massachusetts	346	93	68.1	152	39	28.5
Michigan	287	290	79.7	128	113	31.2
Minnesota	315	75	77.0	135	29	29.4
Mississippi	234	124	72.5	124	32	18.8
Missouri	219	106	69.2	112	25	16.3
Montana	244	15	71.4	131	6	27.6
Nebraska	222	22	60.3	111	6	17.7
Nevada	220	13	66.6	132	3	18.4
New Hampshire	214	5	51.8	121	2	17.2
New Jersey	288	105	77.0	143	40	28.8
New Mexico	180	28	56.8	111	7	14.0
New York	349	546	84.0	149	214	33.0
North Carolina	195	96	62.2	98	16	10.5
North Dakota	247	9	63.1	127	3	19.8
Ohio	211	335	74.5	114	84	18.6
Oklahoma	227	69	67.6	105	17	17.1
Oregon	250	64	70.3	132	23	25.1
Pennsylvania	257	286	73.7	130	93	24.0
Rhode Island	292	15	59.0	147	6	25.6
South Carolina	192	63	66.7	96	9	9.3
South Dakota	264	12	72.2	136	4	26.5
Tennessee	163	100	51.7	98	19	10.1
Texas	170	293	54.0	107	71	13.2
Utah	231	21	62.8	125	9	25.9
Vermont	307	10	62.5	150	4	25.3
Virginia	172	76	55.4	97	14	10.1
Washington	271	86	72.8	120	32	26.6
West Virginia	212	64	68.6	115	18	19.2
Wisconsin	297	73	73.7	125	30	29.7
Wyoming	165	5	50.2	104	1	13.6
Total <sup>c</sup>	243	4,927	68.3	122	1,484	20.6

<sup>a</sup>Averaged over households with the shelter deduction.<sup>b</sup>Subject to a limit except when at least one member of the household is elderly or disabled.<sup>c</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table B-5--Distribution of participating households by selected characteristics by State

State	Households with children <sup>a</sup>		Households with elderly <sup>a</sup>		Households with disabled <sup>a</sup>		Households with earners <sup>a</sup>		Households with public assistance <sup>a</sup>	
	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent
Alabama	87	55.6	48	30.8	16	10.0	43	27.5	37	23.3
Alaska	6	71.6	0	5.6	0	5.4	2	26.1	6	63.9
Arizona	61	67.6	11	12.3	7	7.4	25	27.5	37	40.8
Arkansas	43	52.3	31	37.8	9	10.7	22	26.8	19	22.6
California	528	84.7	18	2.9	5	0.8	73	11.7	507	81.3
Colorado	50	61.0	14	16.9	8	9.7	22	26.4	44	53.9
Connecticut	30	69.5	7	15.4	4	9.6	4	8.5	36	84.6
Delaware	7	67.4	2	21.4	1	8.5	2	15.5	6	57.8
District of Columbia	14	56.7	5	21.2	2	9.3	2	8.6	15	60.5
Florida	138	52.8	85	32.5	24	9.1	57	21.8	84	32.2
Georgia	106	58.5	54	29.8	17	9.4	37	20.4	66	36.4
Hawaii	17	54.2	7	23.5	2	7.9	8	24.7	15	49.2
Idaho	14	64.8	4	16.9	2	8.0	8	36.7	7	31.2
Illinois	220	54.8	61	15.1	42	10.5	47	11.7	277	68.9
Indiana	65	65.3	15	15.1	9	9.1	28	28.4	40	40.4
Iowa	41	60.7	12	18.0	6	8.9	20	29.5	31	46.5
Kansas	29	58.0	11	22.2	4	8.8	12	23.5	26	51.9
Kentucky	99	61.0	33	20.4	22	13.8	41	25.4	50	31.2
Louisiana	153	62.4	56	23.0	28	11.6	67	27.4	84	34.5
Maine	19	51.7	10	27.7	4	10.4	8	22.8	16	43.8
Maryland	62	58.6	19	18.2	9	8.1	14	13.6	69	64.8
Massachusetts	77	56.5	27	19.8	12	8.8	10	7.1	88	64.5
Michigan	218	59.9	40	11.0	24	6.5	55	15.3	277	76.1
Minnesota	56	57.3	16	16.7	7	7.4	21	21.7	61	62.1
Mississippi	94	54.5	61	35.6	19	11.4	52	30.1	48	28.1
Missouri	89	57.8	37	24.0	16	10.2	37	24.0	61	39.7
Montana	13	60.2	3	12.7	2	9.1	5	25.3	11	51.6
Nebraska	20	57.1	7	19.8	4	10.0	12	32.5	17	46.9
Nevada	9	46.5	4	22.1	2	9.4	3	18.1	5	24.0
New Hampshire	4	43.9	3	29.7	2	14.8	1	9.6	6	55.6
New Jersey	86	62.9	29	21.2	15	10.6	9	6.9	86	63.0
New Mexico	33	66.3	9	18.4	5	9.8	15	30.5	16	31.8
New York	348	53.5	140	21.5	82	12.6	66	10.1	403	61.9
North Carolina	86	56.1	51	33.1	18	11.8	38	24.7	52	33.8
North Dakota	8	58.2	2	17.4	2	11.7	5	38.5	5	36.6
Ohio	245	54.6	60	13.3	50	11.2	69	15.4	285	63.5
Oklahoma	56	54.9	32	31.2	10	9.4	25	24.9	35	34.0
Oregon	46	50.6	16	17.6	9	10.2	24	26.8	35	38.8
Pennsylvania	215	55.3	60	15.4	43	11.1	56	14.4	237	61.0
Rhode Island	15	59.2	6	24.7	3	10.1	2	10.0	15	61.5
South Carolina	57	60.6	31	32.8	9	9.9	24	25.6	31	32.9
South Dakota	11	64.3	3	17.7	1	8.5	7	39.1	6	33.8
Tennessee	107	55.5	51	26.6	23	11.9	54	27.9	60	31.0
Texas	353	65.1	112	20.7	36	6.6	162	29.9	149	27.5
Utah	23	68.3	3	9.9	3	9.6	12	34.1	14	42.6
Vermont	7	47.8	5	31.3	1	9.8	3	21.1	9	57.5
Virginia	71	51.3	41	29.8	13	9.3	32	23.3	45	32.6
Washington	75	63.1	14	11.5	12	9.9	18	15.1	75	63.4
West Virginia	55	58.6	19	19.7	11	12.1	22	23.7	33	34.8
Wisconsin	78	78.5	6	6.4	0	0.1	28	28.2	68	68.8
Wyoming	7	69.5	1	10.8	1	8.6	3	30.2	5	47.6
Total <sup>b</sup>	4,351	60.3	1,394	19.3	656	9.1	1,413	19.6	3,709	51.4

<sup>a</sup>Children are age 17 or less; elderly persons are age 60 or more; disabled persons receive SSI, are not over age 60, and do not reside with an elderly person; earnings include wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit; and public assistance includes AFDC and GA.

<sup>b</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.



Appendix Table B-6--Distribution of participating households by selected income sources by State

State	Households with AFDC		Households with SSI		Households with Social Security		Households with earnings*		Households with GA	
	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent
Alabama	36	22.9	49	31.2	51	32.7	43	27.5	1	0.4
Alaska	4	49.3	1	7.0	1	6.5	2	26.1	1	16.3
Arizona	33	36.7	12	13.3	13	14.3	25	27.5	4	4.2
Arkansas	17	20.2	29	35.4	32	38.5	22	26.8	2	2.4
California	461	73.9	5	0.8	18	2.8	73	11.7	47	7.5
Colorado	29	34.7	15	18.6	16	19.0	22	26.4	17	20.6
Connecticut	27	63.8	7	16.6	8	19.4	4	8.5	10	22.9
Delaware	6	51.2	2	19.6	2	21.3	2	15.5	1	7.8
District of Columbia	12	47.3	5	20.1	5	17.8	2	8.6	3	13.7
Florida	84	32.1	85	32.5	64	24.5	57	21.8	0	0.2
Georgia	65	35.9	54	29.8	61	33.9	37	20.4	1	0.5
Hawaii	11	36.6	6	20.2	6	18.2	8	24.7	4	13.2
Idaho	5	25.2	3	15.9	4	20.5	8	36.7	1	6.5
Illinois	186	46.3	75	18.6	63	15.7	47	11.7	96	23.8
Indiana	40	40.3	16	16.1	21	20.9	28	28.4	0	0.3
Iowa	31	46.2	12	17.7	15	23.0	20	29.5	0	0.6
Kansas	20	40.6	9	18.9	13	25.8	12	23.5	6	12.2
Kentucky	49	30.6	45	27.6	38	23.3	41	25.4	1	0.6
Louisiana	84	34.5	66	27.0	58	23.8	67	27.4	--	--
Maine	15	41.0	9	25.4	12	32.8	8	22.8	2	4.3
Maryland	53	50.2	19	17.7	19	17.9	14	13.6	16	15.0
Massachusetts	70	51.3	32	23.7	26	19.4	10	7.1	19	13.7
Michigan	194	53.3	42	11.6	47	12.9	55	15.3	90	24.9
Minnesota	47	47.7	14	14.7	18	18.3	21	21.7	15	15.2
Mississippi	48	28.1	60	34.8	65	38.0	52	30.1	--	--
Missouri	55	35.9	36	23.4	43	28.2	37	24.0	6	4.1
Montana	8	38.4	3	16.1	4	17.7	5	25.3	3	14.3
Nebraska	13	36.3	7	19.3	9	25.4	12	32.5	4	11.6
Nevada	1	6.6	4	19.6	4	21.9	3	18.1	3	17.4
New Hampshire	4	34.5	3	28.3	4	34.8	1	9.6	2	21.4
New Jersey	71	52.0	34	24.8	26	19.3	9	6.9	15	11.2
New Mexico	15	29.9	10	20.4	9	18.1	15	30.5	1	2.0
New York	290	44.7	175	27.0	126	19.4	66	10.1	118	18.2
North Carolina	47	30.8	49	32.0	55	35.5	38	24.7	5	3.0
North Dakota	5	35.0	3	17.7	4	26.2	5	38.5	0	2.3
Ohio	202	45.1	82	18.3	73	16.2	69	15.4	90	20.0
Oklahoma	32	31.0	30	29.9	32	31.5	25	24.9	3	3.1
Oregon	27	29.6	17	18.4	20	21.8	24	26.8	9	9.7
Pennsylvania	158	40.6	77	19.8	67	17.2	56	14.4	82	21.2
Rhode Island	12	48.7	6	24.1	6	25.8	2	10.0	3	13.4
South Carolina	19	20.2	31	32.2	33	34.7	24	25.6	12	12.7
South Dakota	5	29.6	3	17.5	4	22.8	7	39.1	1	5.5
Tennessee	60	30.9	55	28.5	52	26.9	54	27.9	0	0.1
Texas	149	27.5	102	18.9	105	19.4	162	29.9	--	--
Utah	13	39.2	5	13.8	5	14.0	12	34.1	1	3.3
Vermont	6	39.1	4	25.7	5	34.3	3	21.1	3	20.2
Virginia	40	29.4	36	26.5	41	29.6	32	23.3	5	3.3
Washington	63	53.0	19	16.3	15	12.9	18	15.1	13	10.7
West Virginia	33	34.8	22	23.7	19	19.9	22	23.7	0	0
Wisconsin	61	61.3	0	0.1	10	10.0	28	28.2	8	7.7
Wyoming	4	43.9	1	12.6	2	17.8	3	30.2	0	4.7
Total <sup>b</sup>	3,022	41.9	1,489	20.6	1,447	20.1	1,413	19.6	726	10.1

\*Earnings include wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

<sup>b</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

-- No sample households in this category.

Source: 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table B-7--Average monthly values of selected income sources by State<sup>a</sup>

State	Earned Income <sup>b</sup>	AFDC	GA	SSI	Social Security
Alabama	544	122	118	228	350
Alaska	617	727	335	281	363
Arizona	555	273	161	265	374
Arkansas	563	198	198	206	356
California	454	649	319	474	365
Colorado	548	335	98	239	348
Connecticut	445	527	268	255	354
Delaware	587	306	148	236	352
District of Columbia	469	374	284	262	335
Florida	541	260	190	264	351
Georgia	520	274	173	213	342
Hawaii	660	541	337	279	391
Idaho	564	241	112	216	371
Illinois	489	309	146	284	357
Indiana	523	278	237	256	366
Iowa	468	370	119	201	381
Kansas	528	362	223	218	372
Kentucky	478	220	186	267	343
Louisiana	542	177	--	262	348
Maine	513	400	205	160	391
Maryland	516	364	206	254	350
Massachusetts	533	554	355	307	347
Michigan	427	462	235	284	347
Minnesota	461	496	209	250	375
Mississippi	568	125	--	233	347
Missouri	592	272	69	230	367
Montana	455	335	237	241	373
Nebraska	489	337	84	216	357
Nevada	537	298	299	249	380
New Hampshire	400	451	67	225	356
New Jersey	500	382	258	287	376
New Mexico	508	242	197	277	351
New York	528	472	306	324	371
North Carolina	545	244	255	221	341
North Dakota	482	374	425	209	366
Ohio	467	318	146	261	343
Oklahoma	560	287	71	213	344
Oregon	488	377	51	228	380
Pennsylvania	528	374	217	279	354
Rhode Island	489	472	385	247	390
South Carolina	537	203	205	218	336
South Dakota	547	283	245	198	375
Tennessee	553	176	211	259	343
Texas	608	183	--	252	357
Utah	546	332	237	257	380
Vermont	540	501	74	207	423
Virginia	543	277	164	223	350
Washington	465	462	300	283	356
West Virginia	531	249	201	269	360
Wisconsin	520	492	209	469	386
Wyoming	405	321	226	224	366
National Average	528	389	221	261	356

<sup>a</sup>These values are averaged over households with the income source.

<sup>b</sup>Earnings include wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

-- No sample households in this category.

Source: 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table B-8--Distribution of participating households  
with and without expedited service by State

State	Households with expedited service		Households without expedited service	
	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent
Alabama	5	3.4	152	96.6
Alaska	1	16.8	7	83.2
Arizona	8	8.7	82	91.3
Arkansas	2	2.7	81	97.3
California	20	3.2	604	96.8
Colorado	3	3.3	80	96.7
Connecticut	1	1.5	42	98.5
Delaware	1	4.9	10	95.1
District of Columbia	2	6.3	24	93.7
Florida	12	4.4	250	95.6
Georgia	7	4.1	174	95.9
Hawaii	1	2.5	30	97.5
Idaho	2	9.6	19	90.4
Illinois	20	5.0	382	95.0
Indiana	8	7.9	92	92.1
Iowa	3	4.7	64	95.3
Kansas	2	4.6	47	95.4
Kentucky	8	4.9	154	95.1
Louisiana	7	3.0	237	97.0
Maine	0	1.0	37	99.0
Maryland	3	2.8	103	97.0
Massachusetts	8	6.1	128	93.9
Michigan	18	5.0	345	95.0
Minnesota	2	2.5	96	97.5
Mississippi	3	1.6	169	98.4
Missouri	7	4.6	146	95.4
Montana	0	1.2	21	98.8
Nebraska	0	0.6	36	99.4
Nevada	6	30.7	13	69.3
New Hampshire	1	7.9	9	92.1
New Jersey	1	0.5	136	99.5
New Mexico	3	5.7	47	94.3
New York	20	3.1	630	96.9
North Carolina	5	3.0	149	97.0
North Dakota	0	2.0	14	98.0
Ohio	21	4.7	428	95.3
Oklahoma	2	2.1	100	97.9
Oregon	4	3.9	88	96.1
Pennsylvania	15	3.9	373	96.1
Rhode Island	0	1.4	25	98.6
South Carolina	1	0.9	94	99.1
South Dakota	1	4.2	16	95.8
Tennessee	11	5.7	182	94.3
Texas	41	7.6	501	92.4
Utah	4	13.2	29	86.8
Vermont	0	2.3	15	97.7
Virginia	6	4.2	132	95.8
Washington	3	2.6	115	97.4
West Virginia	3	3.4	91	96.6
Wisconsin	1	1.3	98	98.7
Wyoming	0	1.2	10	98.5
Total <sup>a</sup>	304	4.2	6,905	95.8

<sup>a</sup>Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table B-9--Distribution of participating households by race/ethnic origin of household head and by State

State	Race/ethnic origin of household head							
	White		Black		Hispanic		Other	
	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent	(000s)	Percent
Alabama	59	37.8	96	61.4	0	0.2	1	0.6
Alaska	5	52.8	0	5.3	0	2.6	3	39.3
Arizona	38	42.4	7	8.0	27	30.4	17	19.2
Arkansas	47	56.8	35	42.8	0	0.1	0	0.3
California	219	35.1	148	23.7	158	25.4	99	15.8
Colorado	41	50.4	10	12.8	27	32.3	4	4.5
Connecticut	16	36.8	13	29.7	14	32.4	0	1.1
Delaware	4	33.5	7	60.7	1	5.8	--	--
District of Columbia	1	2.6	24	95.8	0	1.0	0	0.7
Florida	82	31.3	106	40.5	71	27.3	3	1.0
Georgia	61	33.5	117	64.5	0	0.2	3	1.8
Hawaii	10	31.2	1	1.7	0	1.0	21	66.2
Idaho	18	85.2	0	0.9	2	9.6	1	4.3
Illinois	137	34.0	231	57.4	28	7.0	6	1.6
Indiana	65	65.7	31	31.1	2	2.2	1	1.0
Iowa	61	90.8	5	7.3	1	1.1	1	0.9
Kansas	35	70.4	11	22.0	2	3.6	2	4.0
Kentucky	135	83.4	25	15.3	0	0.1	2	1.3
Louisiana	70	28.6	171	69.9	1	0.5	2	0.9
Maine	36	95.5	0	0.8	0	0.2	1	3.4
Maryland	33	31.2	70	65.6	1	0.5	3	2.7
Massachusetts	84	61.3	19	14.3	24	17.6	9	6.8
Michigan	179	49.4	171	47.1	8	2.1	5	1.5
Minnesota	73	74.1	13	13.4	2	2.1	10	10.3
Mississippi	48	28.3	120	70.1	0	0.2	3	1.5
Missouri	97	63.2	54	35.3	0	0.3	2	1.2
Montana	16	76.9	0	0.4	0	2.2	4	20.6
Nebraska	27	75.2	6	17.2	1	3.2	2	4.5
Nevada	12	62.0	5	28.0	1	7.2	1	2.8
New Hampshire	9	90.7	0	1.3	0	1.1	1	7.0
New Jersey	40	29.0	63	45.7	32	23.3	3	2.0
New Mexico	12	23.8	2	3.4	29	58.1	7	14.6
New York	222	34.2	210	32.2	188	29.0	30	4.6
North Carolina	61	39.6	88	57.3	1	0.5	4	2.7
North Dakota	12	83.8	0	0.8	0	0.7	2	14.7
Ohio	268	59.7	168	37.4	10	2.2	3	0.7
Oklahoma	68	67.2	24	23.5	2	1.5	8	7.9
Oregon	79	86.9	5	5.4	2	2.5	5	5.1
Pennsylvania	223	57.3	143	36.7	19	4.9	4	1.1
Rhode Island	18	72.6	3	10.4	3	12.0	1	5.0
South Carolina	26	27.9	67	70.8	0	0.2	1	1.2
South Dakota	12	70.3	0	1.0	--	--	5	28.8
Tennessee	112	58.1	80	41.3	0	0.1	1	0.6
Texas	137	25.3	161	29.7	220	40.7	24	4.4
Utah	28	81.6	1	2.2	3	9.6	2	6.5
Vermont	15	97.8	0	0.5	--	--	0	1.7
Virginia	58	41.9	75	54.9	1	0.6	4	2.6
Washington	91	76.6	10	8.5	6	4.7	12	10.2
West Virginia	86	91.3	7	7.2	0	0.1	1	1.3
Wisconsin	56	56.5	29	28.9	4	3.9	11	10.6
Wyoming	7	75.2	0	2.2	1	12.7	1	9.8
Total*	3,347	46.4	2,631	36.5	895	12.4	337	4.7

\*Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

-- No sample households in this category.

Source: 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

**APPENDIX C**  
**POVERTY INCOME GUIDELINES FOR 1989**

Appendix C--Poverty income guidelines for 1989\*

Household Size	Continental United States, Guam, and the Virgin Islands	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$5,770	\$7,210	\$6,650
2	7,730	9,660	8,900
3	9,690	12,110	11,150
4	11,650	14,560	13,400
5	13,610	17,010	15,850
6	15,570	19,460	17,900
7	17,530	21,910	20,150
8	19,490	24,360	22,400
Each additional member	+1,960	2,450	2,250

\*Annual income for nonfarm families. These poverty guidelines are established by the Office of Management and Budget. The Bureau of the Census establishes different poverty guidelines.

Source: Department of Health and Human Services.

**APPENDIX D**

**MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE GROSS AND NET MONTHLY  
FOOD STAMP INCOME ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS  
IN SUMMER 1989**

Appendix Table D-1--Maximum allowable gross monthly food stamp income eligibility standards in summer 1989

Household size	Continental United States, Guam, and the Virgin Islands	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$626	\$782	\$721
2	838	1,047	965
3	1,050	1,312	1,208
4	1,263	1,578	1,452
5	1,475	1,843	1,696
6	1,687	2,109	1,940
7	1,900	2,374	2,183
8	2,112	2,639	2,427
Each additional member	+213	+266	+244

\*The food stamp gross income standards in effect from October 1, 1988 - September 30, 1989.

Source: 53 Federal Register 44505, November 3, 1988.



Appendix Table D-2--Maximum allowable net monthly food stamp income  
eligibility standards in summer 1989

Household size	Continental United States, Guam, and the Virgin Islands	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$481	\$601	\$555
2	645	805	742
3	808	1,010	930
4	971	1,214	1,117
5	1,135	1,418	1,305
6	1,298	1,622	1,492
7	1,461	1,826	1,680
8	1,625	2,030	1,867
Each additional member	+164	+205	+188

\*The food stamp net income standards are equal to the Department of Health and Human Services poverty income guidelines (appendix C) divided by 12, rounded up to the nearest dollar. These standards are in effect from October 1, 1988 - September 30, 1989.

Source: 53 Federal Register 44505, November 3, 1988.

**APPENDIX E**

**VALUE OF STANDARD AND MAXIMUM DEPENDENT  
CARE AND EXCESS SHELTER DEDUCTIONS IN  
THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES AND  
OUTLYING AREAS IN SUMMER 1989**

Appendix E--Value of standard and maximum dependent care and excess shelter deductions in continental United States and outlying areas in Summer 1989<sup>a</sup>

Area	Standard	Dependent Care <sup>b</sup>	Excess Shelter <sup>c</sup>
Continental United States	\$106	\$160	\$170
Alaska	182	160	296
Hawaii	150	160	243
Guam	213	160	206
Virgin Islands	94	160	125

<sup>a</sup>These standards are in effect from October 1, 1988 - September 30, 1989.

<sup>b</sup>The dependent care deduction limit is \$160 per dependent.

<sup>c</sup>Limit on excess shelter deduction for households certified after 10/1/87 and with no member age 60 or more or no disabled member.

Source: 53 Federal Registry 44505, November 3, 1988.

**APPENDIX F**

**VALUE OF MAXIMUM COUPON ALLOTMENT IN  
THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES AND OUTLYING  
AREAS IN SUMMER 1989**

Appendix F--Value of maximum coupon allotment in  
the continental United States and outlying areas in Summer 1989<sup>a</sup>

Household Size	Continental U.S.	Alaska Urban	Alaska Rural I	Alaska Rural II	Nenana	Hawaii	Guam	Virgin Islands
1	\$90	\$114	\$146	\$177	\$158	\$137	\$132	\$115
2	165	210	286	326	290	251	243	212
3	236	300	383	467	415	359	348	303
4	300	382	487	593	527	457	442	385
5	356	453	578	704	626	542	552	458
6	427	544	694	845	752	651	630	549
7	472	601	767	934	831	719	696	607
8	540	687	877	1,067	949	822	795	694
Each additional member	+68	+86	+110	+133	+119	+103	+99	+87

<sup>a</sup>The maximum benefit values are effective from October 1, 1989 to September 30, 1989 and are equal to 100.65 percent of the Thrifty Food Plan for the preceding June, rounded to the lowest dollar increment.

<sup>b</sup>Due to the unusual nature of Alaskan terrain and climate, areas outside major urban centers are less accessible to food distributors. Therefore, the value of the maximum coupon allotment accounts for this added expense by splitting the Thrifty Food Plan into four separate components: Rural I, Rural II, Nenanan, and Urban.

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, FNS.

**APPENDIX G**  
**SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES**

## APPENDIX G--SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

The estimates in this report are derived from a sample of households selected for review as part of the Integrated Quality Control System (IQCS). This system is an ongoing review of food stamp household circumstances designed to determine (1) if households are eligible to participate or are receiving the correct benefit amount, and (2) if household participation is correctly denied or terminated. The IQCS is based on a national probability sample of approximately 70,000 participating food stamp households, and a somewhat smaller number of denials and terminations. The national sample of participating households collected in the IQCS is stratified by the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. Annual required State samples range from a minimum of 300 to a maximum of 2,400 reviews, depending on the size of the State's caseload. State agencies select an independent sample each month that is generally proportional to the size of the monthly participating caseload.<sup>1</sup>

The national-level estimates presented in appendix A of this report are derived from the summer 1989 food stamp IQCS sample of participating households. To ensure an adequate sampling size, both July and August samples comprised the data for the summer of 1989. The summer 1988 and summer 1989 sample sizes were approximately the same. The State-level estimates presented in appendix B of this report are derived from the samples for all months of fiscal year 1989.

### TARGET UNIVERSE

The target universe of this study included all participating households (active cases) subject to quality control review in the 50 States and the District of Columbia. Participating households in Guam and the Virgin Islands were also sampled, but these results are not included in the tabulations.

While almost all participating food stamp households are included in the target universe, certain types not amenable to QC review are not included. Specifically, the active universe includes all households receiving food stamps during a review period except those in which the participants (1) died or moved outside the State; (2) received benefits by a disaster certification authorized by FNS; (3) were under investigation for Food Stamp Program fraud (including those with pending fraud hearings), and/or were appealing a notice of adverse action when the review date fell within the time period covered by continued participation pending a hearing; or (4) received restored benefits in accordance with the State manual, but who were otherwise ineligible. The sampling unit within the active universe each month is the food stamp household as specified in FNS regulations.

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<sup>1</sup>Several States have integrated the Food Stamp, AFDC, and Medicaid QC sample selection and review process. In these States, monthly sample sizes are not necessarily proportional to monthly caseload sizes.

## WEIGHTING

The national-level estimates in this report are based on a total of 10,209 valid observations. The State-level estimates in this report are based on a total of 62,251 valid observations.<sup>2</sup> The sample findings have been weighted by the number of participating households as reported to FNS. The case record weights of several States were adjusted to reflect the disproportionately stratified QC sample designs in those States.

## INCOME DECISION RULE

Several household-level income and deduction variables are both reported and can be calculated by summing across person-level variables. Gross income is the key variable, since the earned income and excess shelter deductions and net income depend on gross income, and benefit levels depend on net income. The data on which this report is based were edited to achieve internal consistency. For summer 1989, the mean values for selected variables broken out by their calculated and reported values are presented in table G-1.

## COMPARISON TO PARTICIPATION DATA

The following data present a comparison of the summer 1989 quality control sample-based estimates to aggregate program participation data (excluding Guam and the Virgin Islands):

	<u>Summer 1989</u> <u>Program Data</u>	<u>Summer 1989</u> <u>IQCS Sample</u>	<u>Fiscal 1989</u> <u>Program Data</u>	<u>Fiscal 1989</u> <u>IQCS Sample</u>
Number of households	7,236,924	7,213,487	7,217,039	7,209,463
Number of participants	18,653,089	18,651,792	18,764,433	18,925,457
Value of benefits	\$960,816,189	\$930,148,723	\$972,999,509	\$946,692,553
Average household size	2.58	2.59	2.60	2.63
Average bonus per person	\$51.51	\$49.87	\$51.85	\$50.02

## COMPLETION RATES

Failure to complete reviews for all cases selected subject to review can bias the sample results if the characteristics of unreviewed households are significantly different from those of reviewed households. While there are no direct measures of such differences, the ratio of valid observations to sample cases selected for review provides an indication of the magnitude of any potential bias. The expected number of cases subject to review in the sample is based on one-sixth of all cases reported as subject to review during October 1988 - September 1989. However, since summer caseloads are smaller than caseloads during other times of the year, this approach probably results in a slight overestimation of the total expected number, and thus in a slight underestimation of the completion rate, for the

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<sup>2</sup>These observations do not include cases from Guam and the Virgin Islands.



summer 1989 sample. The number of cases selected subject to review, the number of valid observations, and the estimated completion rates for summer and fiscal year 1989 are shown below:

	Summer 1989 <u>IQCS Sample</u>	Fiscal 1989 <u>IQCS Sample</u>
Number of cases selected subject to review <sup>3</sup>	11,394	68,914
Number of cases completed <sup>3</sup>	10,307	62,858
Estimated completion rate	90.5%	91.2%

Even though possibly an underestimate, this completion rate compares favorably with other surveys of this nature.

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<sup>3</sup>These observations include completed cases from Guam and the Virgin Islands.

Appendix Table G-1--Comparison of mean calculated and reported values for selected variables of participating households: summer 1989

	All households	Earnings <sup>a</sup>	Elderly <sup>b</sup>	Children <sup>c</sup>	Disabled <sup>d</sup>
	(AVERAGES)				
Gross income					
Calculated	\$443	\$667	\$451	\$507	\$520
Reported	444	663	449	511	515
Net income					
Calculated	247	371	254	298	332
Reported	239	360	245	292	318
Total deduction <sup>e</sup>					
Calculated	216	307	204	226	190
Reported	214	293	204	222	190
Benefit					
Calculated	129	153	52	174	79
Reported	129	152	53	173	81
	(PERCENTAGES)				
Percent with zero gross income					
Calculated	7.0	0.0	1.4	5.3	0.0
Reported	6.2	0.6	1.7	3.8	0.1
Percent with zero net income					
Calculated	17.9	11.3	7.7	13.6	3.1
Reported	18.5	12.2	8.8	13.1	3.9
Percent with minimum benefit <sup>f</sup>					
Calculated	7.6	2.7	25.6	1.0	14.3
Reported	6.6	2.1	23.2	0.7	13.0

<sup>a</sup>Earned income includes wages, salaries, self-employment, farm income, and earned income tax credit.

<sup>b</sup>Households with at least one member age 60 or more.

<sup>c</sup>Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

<sup>d</sup>Households with SSI income and no member age 60 or more.

<sup>e</sup>Includes earned income, dependent care, excess shelter, medical, and standard deductions. The value of the standard deduction and the limit on the excess shelter deduction vary depending on region (see appendix E). Deductions shown are those to which households are entitled. Some of the deductions may not have been used before a household reaches zero net income status.

<sup>f</sup>Minimum benefit is \$10 for one- or two-person households.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

**APPENDIX H**  
**SAMPLING ERROR OF ESTIMATES**

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## APPENDIX H--SAMPLING ERROR OF ESTIMATES

The estimates of the characteristics of food stamp households contained in this report are based on a sample of households. The national-level estimates are based on a summer sample (an average of July and August), and the State-level estimates are based on a fiscal year sample (an average of 12 months). Since these estimates are based on samples, they are subject to statistical sampling error.

One important indicator of the magnitude of the possible sampling error associated with a given estimate is its standard error. Standard errors measure the variation in estimated values which would be observed if multiple replications of the sample were drawn. The magnitude of the standard errors depends on (1) the degree of variation in the variable within the overall population from which the sample has been drawn; (2) the design of the sample, including such issues as stratification and sampling probabilities; and (3) the size of the sample on which the estimate is based.

In this appendix, we present estimates of the standard errors associated with key variables for the national-level statistics, and we outline methods for estimating the standard errors of other national-level statistics for which standard errors have not been directly calculated. In addition, we outline methods for estimating the standard errors of the State-level statistics presented in this report.

### STANDARD ERRORS AND CONFIDENCE INTERVALS FOR NATIONAL-LEVEL ESTIMATES (SUMMER 1989 SAMPLE)

The national-level estimates presented in appendix A are based on the summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample. For these national-level estimates, the standard error of estimates of proportions,  $s_p$ , based on simple random samples is given by the formula:

$$(1) s_p = \sqrt{p(1-p)/(n-1)}$$

where  $p$  is the sample estimate of the proportion and  $n$  is the sample size.

The standard error of estimated numbers of households,  $s_N$ , based on simple random samples is given by the following formula:

$$(2) s_N = N \sqrt{p(1-p)/(n-1)}$$

where  $N$  is the number of households in the population.

These formulas for the standard errors of national-level estimates based on simple random samples do not necessarily provide an accurate estimate for more complex stratified samples such as the stratified sample design used for this study. In this appendix, estimates produced by the formulas above are referred to as "naive standard errors." More accurate standard errors are provided for key

estimates by directly calculating their standard errors through a replicate method as discussed below.<sup>1</sup>

Standard errors can be used to construct confidence intervals for estimated variables. A confidence interval is a range of values that will contain the true value of an estimated characteristic with a known probability. For instance, a 95-percent confidence interval extends approximately two standard errors above and below the estimated value for a characteristic and 95-percent of all confidence intervals will contain the true value.

The following discussion presents estimated standard errors for a selected set of key national-level estimates using the replication method. It then presents a simple method for approximating standard errors of estimated numbers of households and percentages for the national caseload when individual standard errors have not been estimated.

### **Standard Errors of National-Level Estimated Numbers of Households**

The standard errors for selected national-level estimates of FSP households in summer 1989 are shown in table H-1. These standard errors can be used to compute the 95-percent confidence interval for the estimated number of households with a particular characteristic. For example, the estimate in table H-1 of the number of elderly households with zero net income has a standard error of 11,000 and therefore the 95-percent confidence interval extends from 86,000 to 130,000, around the point estimate of 108,000.<sup>2</sup> With such a confidence interval, 95-percent of all intervals constructed in this fashion will contain the true value of the variable.

For standard errors not shown in table H-1, the approximate standard error,  $S_E$ , of an estimated number of households for summer 1989 can be obtained by the use of the formula:

$$(3) \quad S_E = s_N \times d \times f$$

where  $s_N$  is the naive standard error from either equation (2) above or from table H-2,  $d$  is the average design effect of 1.3, and  $f$  is an adjustment factor from table H-5 that potentially can improve the approximation by partially accounting for the variation in design effects across subgroups of the sample.<sup>3</sup> The average design effect is the average increase in the size of the standard error estimated by the replicate method over that of the naive standard error appropriate for a simple

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<sup>1</sup>Standard errors have been estimated using the replicate sample method described in Leslie Kish, Survey Sampling, 1965, pp. 127-128. Under the replicate sample method, the sample is divided into random sub-samples, and the variance of the mean of any given variable in the full sample is based on the variance of the means for that variable across the sub-samples. In implementing this approach, the samples used in the estimation work were divided into 40 replicate sub-samples.

<sup>2</sup>Calculated by rounding to the nearest thousand;  $(108 - (2 \times 11)) = 86$  and  $(108 + (2 \times 11)) = 130$ .

<sup>3</sup>The average design effect reflects the loss of precision due to the existence of different sampling rates in different strata of the IQCS sample. It is the ratio of the average standard error computed by the replication method to the average naive standard error across all cells of table H-5.

random sample. Use of the adjustment factor  $f$  will generally improve the approximation when the base of the estimated percentage or number and the characteristic used in defining the percentage or total are quite similar to the bases and characteristics shown in table H-5. In other cases,  $f$  should be ignored by setting it to 1.0.<sup>4</sup>

For example, to obtain the approximate standard error of the number of households containing an elderly person with zero net income, the first step is to obtain the size of the estimate. As shown in table 46 of the detailed tables, 108,000 elderly households have zero net income. The next step is to obtain the naive standard error from either equation (2) or less accurately from table H-2. Using equation (2), the value is 8,500 households.<sup>5</sup> Multiplying 8.5 times the design factor  $d$  of 1.3 produces the first approximation of 11.05. In this case, the same base for the number of households (i.e., with elderly) and the same characteristic (i.e., zero net income) are defined in table H-5. Consequently, using the  $f$  factor from table H-5 should improve the approximation. Multiplying the first approximation of 11.05 times the adjustment factor of 1.004 from table H-5 produces a second approximation of 11.09. In this case, the approximation can be compared with the specific standard error estimate from table H-1, 11,500. The second approximation happened to be underestimated in this case, but is closer than the naive standard error of 8.5 thousand (the naive standard error does not account for sample design effects). However, it is not an improvement over the estimate based only on the average design effect (11.05).

### Standard Errors of National-Level Estimated Percentages

The standard errors for selected estimated percentages of FSP households in summer 1989 are shown in table H-3. As discussed above, these standard errors can be used to compute the 95-percent interval for the estimated percentage. For example, the estimate in table H-3 of the percentage of households with children with zero gross income has a standard error of .44, and therefore, the 95-percent confidence interval extends from 4.42 percent to 6.18 percent--around the point estimate of 5.3 percent.<sup>6</sup>

For estimated percentages in summer 1989 not shown in table H-3, the approximate standard error,  $S_E$ , can be obtained by the use of the formula:

$$(4) \quad S_E = s_p \times d \times f$$

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<sup>4</sup>Table H-5 presents the adjustment factors for various categories of households defined by household composition and income receipt. For each household category, the adjustment factor " $f$ " is the ratio of the design effects for the sample of that category of households to the design effects for the entire sample.

<sup>5</sup>Calculated as:

$$1,408 \times \sqrt{((108/1,408) \times (1 - (108/1,408))/1,943)} = 8.5$$

Where 1,408 is the estimated number of elderly households, 108 is the estimated number of households with elderly with zero gross incomes and 1,943 is the sample size of elderly households. Table H-4 is accurate only for the full sample size of all food stamp households.

<sup>6</sup>Calculated by rounding to the nearest tenth of a percent as;  $(5.3 - (2 \times .44)) = 4.42$ , and  $(5.3 + (2 \times .44)) = 6.18$ .

where  $s_p$  is the naive standard error from equation (1) above or less accurately from table H-4,  $d$  is the average design effect of 1.3, and  $f$  is an adjustment factor from table H-5 to improve the approximation as discussed above.

For example, to obtain an approximate estimate of the standard error for the percentage of households with children who have zero net income, the first step is to obtain the estimated percentage and the size of the base for the estimated percentage. From table 50 of the detailed tables, we see that 4,337,000 households have children. From table 52, we see that 13.6 percent of households with children have zero net income. The next step is to obtain the naive standard error from equation (1). Using equation (1) the square root of  $(.136 \times .864)/(6,245-1) = .433$  percent. Multiplying the naive standard error of .433 times the average design factor of 1.3 times the specific adjustment factor of .99 from table H-5 produces an adjusted approximation of .557. In this case, the approximation can be compared with the specific standard error estimate from table H-3, .554. Thus, this approximation is quite close to the actual estimated standard error.

### **Standard Errors of National-Level Estimated Means**

The standard errors for selected estimated means in summer 1989 are provided in table H-6. These standard errors can be used to compute a 95-percent confidence interval. For example, the standard error for average gross income for all FSP households in summer 1989 as shown in table H-6 is 3.96, and its mean is \$443. Therefore, a 95-percent confidence interval extends between approximately \$435 and \$451.<sup>7</sup>

Generalized approximation methods such as those used above work well for standard errors of estimated numbers and percentages since the standard errors depend only on the sample size, the estimated proportion, and the design effects. Generalized methods are less appropriate for standard errors of means since the standard error depends on the variance as well as the sample size and design effects. However, a rough approximation of the likely magnitude of standard errors of means not included in table H-6 can be obtained from table H-7 which shows the standard error as a percent of the mean value for all FSP households and successively smaller subsets of households. In this table, the approximate standard errors as a percent of the mean value are shown as the average across the 12 variables from table H-6. The lowest and highest values across the 12 variables for each subset of households are also shown to give an indication of the quality of the approximation provided by the standard error expressed as a percent of the mean value. These standard errors include the design effects as they were estimated using a replication method.

### **STANDARD ERRORS FOR STATE-LEVEL ESTIMATES (FISCAL YEAR 1989)**

The State-level estimates presented in this report (appendix B) are based on the 1989 fiscal year Food Stamp Quality Control sample. The magnitude of the standard errors for these State-level estimates depends on (1) the State sample sizes, which are presented in table H-8; (2) the design of the sample (design effects for the States are presented in table H-8--States with simple random samples do not have a design effect and, therefore, the design effect is set to 1.0000); and (3) the degree of variation in the variable within the overall population from which the sample has been drawn (the standard deviations of key variables for the fiscal year sample are presented in table H-9).

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<sup>7</sup>Rounding to the nearest dollar,  $(443 - (2 \times 3.96)) = 435$  and  $(443 + (2 \times 3.96)) = 451$ .



Below, we present a method for approximating the standard errors of State-level estimated proportions and continuous variables.

### Standard Errors of State-Level Estimated Percentages

For State-level estimates, an approximation of the standard error of estimates of proportions,  $S_p$ , is given by the formula:

$$(5) S_p = \sqrt{(1-p)/((n-1) \times d)}$$

where  $p$  is the sample estimate of the proportion,  $n$  is the sample size of the State, and  $d$  is the design effect for the State. The design effects and sample sizes for each State are presented in table H-8.

For example, to compute the approximate standard error of the proportion of households containing children in Louisiana, the first step is to obtain the size of the estimated proportion from table 5 in appendix B. As shown in this table, 62.4 percent of all FSP households in Louisiana in an average month in 1989 contained children. The next step is to obtain the design effect and sample size for Louisiana from table H-8 (1.0000 and 1,176, respectively). Using equation 5, the approximate standard error for the proportion of FSP households containing children in Louisiana is 1.4 percent.<sup>8</sup> The 95-percent confidence interval extends from 59.6 to 65.2 percent.

### Standard Errors of State-Level Estimated Means

For State-level estimates, the standard errors for means,  $S_m$ , is given by the following formula:

$$(6) S_m = SD \sqrt{(1/(n-1)) \times d}$$

where  $SD$  is the standard deviation of the variable,  $d$  is the design effect, and  $n$  is the sample size for the State. The standard deviations for each of the main continuous variables are presented in table H-9.

For example, to compute an approximate standard error for average gross income in Oregon, the first step is to obtain the size of the estimate from table 2 of appendix B. As shown in this table, the average monthly gross income for FSP households in Oregon in an average month in fiscal year 1989 is \$411. The next step is to obtain the State sample size and design effect for Oregon, and the

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<sup>8</sup>Calculated as:

$$\sqrt{(.624 \times (1-.624))/(1,176-1) \times 1.000} = 1.4 \text{ percent.}$$

standard deviation for average monthly gross income from table H-9. Using equation 6, the approximate standard error for average monthly gross income in Oregon is 5.29.<sup>9</sup> The 95-percent confidence interval extends between approximately \$400 and \$422.

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<sup>9</sup>Calculated as:

$$272\sqrt{((1/(2,737-1)) \times 1.0356)} = 5.29.$$

Appendix Table H-1--Standard errors of estimated numbers of food stamp households: summer 1989<sup>a</sup>  
(thousands)

Base of estimated number	Households with								Sample size
	Zero gross income	Zero net income	Minimum benefits	Earned income	Elderly	Children	School-age children	Disabled	
All FSP households	25.39	35.36	22.60	32.23	40.64	47.90	46.50	25.27	10,209
With elderly	5.63	11.05	16.64	10.45	NA	10.67	11.38	NA	1,943
Without elderly	25.87	36.07	15.24	35.37	NA	40.19	44.29	23.86	8,266
With children	19.01	24.04	7.43	27.29	11.64	NA	34.11	19.12	6,245
With school children	17.31	24.18	6.98	27.06	12.04	NA	NA	17.46	4,700
Without children	17.10	28.89	21.12	20.78	30.79	NA	NA	19.50	3,964
With earnings	NA	15.75	5.70	NA	11.67	19.35	23.26	6.39	2,176
With disabled	NA	4.50	11.84	5.37	NA	14.49	13.26	NA	972

<sup>a</sup>Standard errors computed as number of households in estimated base times the standard errors of the estimated percentages from table H-3. Standard errors in table H-3 were estimated with the replication method.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table H-2--Naive estimate standard errors of  
estimated numbers of food stamp households: summer 1989  
(thousands)

Size of estimate	Naive est. of standard error <sup>a</sup>
10	2.66
50	5.92
100	8.35
250	13.06
500	18.13
1,000	24.67
2,000	31.96
3,000	35.19
4,000	35.48
5,000	32.93
6,000	26.71
6,500	21.31

<sup>a</sup>Applicable when the base of the estimated number is  
all food stamp households.

$$\text{Naive standard error} = N \sqrt{p(1-p)/(n-1)}$$

where: N = the number of FSP households (7,213,000)  
p = the size of the estimate divided by N  
n = the size of sample (10,209)

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table H-3--Standard errors of estimated percentages  
of food stamp households: summer 1989<sup>a</sup>

Base of estimated percentage	Households with							
	Zero gross income	Zero net income	Minimum benefits	Earned income	Elderly	Children	School-age children	Disabled
All FSP households	0.352	0.490	0.313	0.447	0.563	0.664	0.645	0.350
With elderly	0.400	0.785	1.182	0.742	NA	0.758	0.808	NA
Without elderly	0.446	0.621	0.263	0.609	NA	0.692	0.763	0.411
With children	0.438	0.554	0.171	0.629	0.268	NA	0.786	0.441
With school children	0.525	0.734	0.212	0.821	0.365	NA	NA	0.530
Without children	0.595	1.005	0.734	0.722	1.071	NA	NA	0.678
With earnings	NA	1.120	0.406	NA	0.830	1.376	1.654	0.455
With disabled	NA	0.679	1.786	0.810	NA	2.186	2.001	NA

<sup>a</sup>Standard errors were estimated using the replication method.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table H-4--Naive estimate of standard errors of estimated percentages of food stamp households: summer 1989<sup>a</sup>

Base of est. percentage	Estimated percentage			
	5 or 95	10 or 90	25 or 75	50
10	5.79	7.97	11.51	13.29
50	2.59	3.57	5.15	5.94
100	1.83	2.52	3.64	4.20
250	1.16	1.59	2.30	2.66
500	0.82	1.13	1.63	1.88
1,000	0.58	0.80	1.15	1.33
2,000	0.41	0.56	0.81	0.94
3,000	0.33	0.46	0.66	0.77
4,000	0.29	0.40	0.58	0.66
5,000	0.26	0.36	0.51	0.59
6,000	0.24	0.33	0.47	0.54
7,000	0.22	0.30	0.44	0.50

<sup>a</sup>Applicable when the base of the estimated number is all food stamp households.

Naive standard error =  $\sqrt{p(1-p)/n}$  where p equals estimated percentage and n is the sample size for the base of the percentage (for example, 10,209 when computing the standard error or proportion of all food stamp households).

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table H-5--Adjustment factors for standard errors of estimated percentages of food stamp households: summer 1989<sup>a</sup>

Base of estimated number	Households with								
	Zero gross income	Zero net income	Minimum benefits	Earned income	Elderly	Children	School-age children	Disabled	Average factor
All FSP households	1.079	0.997	0.923	0.880	1.109	1.058	1.009	0.946	1.000
With elderly	1.161	1.004	0.922	1.295	NA	0.883	0.973	NA	1.040
Without elderly	1.133	1.082	1.043	1.012	NA	1.087	1.076	0.907	1.050
With children	1.190	0.987	1.037	0.873	0.951	NA	1.123	1.110	1.040
With school children	1.275	1.158	1.109	0.970	1.018	NA	NA	1.074	1.100
Without children	0.733	0.841	0.940	1.200	1.047	NA	NA	0.961	0.950
With earnings	NA	1.271	0.903	NA	1.532	1.255	1.249	1.022	1.210
With disabled	NA	0.947	1.227	0.849	NA	1.070	1.000	NA	1.020
Average factor	1.095	1.036	1.013	1.011	1.132	1.071	1.072	1.003	1.0510

<sup>a</sup>The adjustment factors are defined as A/B; where A = the ratio of the standard error computed by the replication method to the naive standard error for the specific cell of the table, and B = the ratio of the average standard error computed by the replication method to the average naive standard error across all cells.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table H-6--Standard errors of estimated means: summer 1989<sup>a</sup>

Base of estimated mean	Households with											
	Gross Income	Net Income	Benefits	All Deductions	Total Resources	Household size	Certification period	Earnings <sup>b</sup>	AFDC & GA <sup>b</sup>	SSI <sup>b</sup>	Dependent care cost <sup>b</sup>	Shelter deduction <sup>b</sup>
All FSP households	3.959	3.408	0.870	1.172	3.648	0.019	0.036	11.462	3.383	5.166	6.404	1.103
With elderly	4.368	5.297	2.195	3.977	10.130	0.033	0.090	41.023	17.882	6.893	c	4.005
Without elderly	4.700	3.915	1.130	1.374	4.222	0.023	0.038	10.670	3.458	6.632	6.404	1.194
With children	5.964	5.125	1.552	1.662	4.727	0.030	0.044	11.097	3.966	8.609	6.404	1.448
With school children	7.199	5.994	2.009	1.968	3.639	0.036	0.054	13.785	4.677	9.705	8.808	1.690
Without children	3.978	3.558	0.981	1.855	5.869	0.012	0.068	13.268	6.824	5.440	c	1.953
With earnings	10.691	9.404	2.380	3.355	7.671	0.053	0.089	11.462	12.789	16.430	8.510	2.286
With disabled	9.699	11.029	3.247	3.737	12.644	0.067	0.138	26.204	9.089	6.632	c	6.219

<sup>a</sup>Standard errors were estimated using the replication method.

<sup>b</sup>For households with a nonzero amount.

<sup>c</sup>Sample size too small to make an estimate.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.



Appendix Table H-7--Range of standard errors of mean  
amounts expressed as a percent of the mean amount<sup>a</sup>: summer 1989

Number of households in base of mean (thousands)	Standard error as percent of mean amount		
	Average <sup>b</sup>	Lowest <sup>c</sup>	Highest <sup>d</sup>
7,213 (all FSP households)	1.66	0.37	5.11
4,337 (households with children)	2.12	0.48	7.82
1,406 (households with earnings)	3.03	1.02	6.51
663 (households with disabled)	4.12	1.36	14.99

<sup>a</sup>Standard errors were from table H-6 and mean amounts from applicable text tables.

<sup>b</sup>Average standard error across all 12 variables in table H-6 expressed as a percent of the mean amount.

<sup>c</sup>Lowest of the standard errors across all 12 variables in table H-6 expressed as a percent of the mean amount.

<sup>d</sup>Lowest of the standard errors across all 12 variables in table H-6 expressed as a percent of the mean amount.

Source: Summer 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table H-8--State sample sizes and design effects: 1989

State and stratum	Sample size	Design effect
Alabama	1,239	1.0000
Alaska	293	1.0155
Arizona	2,353	1.0000
Arkansas	1,269	1.0000
California	2,241	1.0242
Colorado	1,481	1.1155
Connecticut	883	1.0000
Delaware	350	1.0000
District of Columbia	592	1.0000
Florida	1,200	1.0000
Georgia	1,209	1.0000
Hawaii	717	1.0000
Idaho	730	1.0000
Illinois	2,821	1.0831
Indiana	1,222	1.0000
Iowa	1,236	1.0000
Kansas	995	1.0000
Kentucky	1,648	1.0000
Louisiana	1,176	1.0000
Maine	872	1.0000
Maryland	1,243	1.0000
Massachusetts	1,199	1.6023
Michigan	2,042	1.0000
Minnesota	1,304	1.0000
Mississippi	1,286	1.0000
Missouri	2,548	1.0000
Montana	970	1.0522
Nebraska	785	1.0000
Nevada	642	1.0000
New Hampshire	387	1.0000
New Jersey	1,269	1.0000
New Mexico	1,102	1.0000
New York	1,262	1.0000
North Carolina	1,187	1.0000
North Dakota	358	1.0000
Ohio	1,202	1.0000
Oklahoma	1,399	1.0000
Oregon	2,737	1.0356
Pennsylvania	1,222	1.0000
Rhode Island	974	1.0000
South Carolina	1,174	1.0075
South Dakota	631	1.0000
Tennessee	1,189	1.0000
Texas	1,277	1.0944
Utah	777	1.0000
Vermont	404	1.0000
Virginia	1,221	1.0000
Washington	2,318	1.0009
West Virginia	1,190	1.2296
Wisconsin	2,109	1.0225
Wyoming	316	1.0000

Source: 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

Appendix Table H-9--Standard deviations for estimated means: 1989

Average monthly values	Standard deviations
Gross income	272
Net income	236
Total deduction	99
Countable resources	514
Food stamp benefit	93
Household size	1.6
Certification period	3.5
Earnings	348
AFDC	207
GA	129
SSI	158
Social Security	157
Dependent care expenses	84
Shelter deduction	68
Shelter expenses	163

Source: 1989 Food Stamp Quality Control sample.

**APPENDIX I**  
**DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENT**

# Appendix I--Data collection instrument

Form Approved  
OMB No. 0960-0313

(For Optional State Use)

## INTEGRATED REVIEW SCHEDULE

**PRIVACY ACT/PAPERWORK NOTICE ACT:** This report is required under provisions of 45 CFR 205.40 (AFDC), 7 CFR 275.14 (Food Stamp), and 42 CFR 431.800 (Medicaid). This information is needed for the review of State performance in determining recipient eligibility. The information is used to determine State compliance, and failure to report may result in a finding of non-compliance.

### I. REVIEW SUMMARY

1. Review Number				1a. Case Number				2. State and Local Agency Codes		3. Sample Month and Year		4. Stratum		5. Review Type			
6. Disposition						7. Review Findings						8. Amount of Error					
AFDC-ADULT		FS		MA		AFDC-ADULT		FS		AFDC-ADULT			FS				

### II. CASE INFORMATION

9. Most Recent Opening				9a. Prior Assistance		10. Most Recent Action				11. Type of Action		12. No. of Case Members		13. Liquid Assets		14. Real Property (Excl. Home)		15. Countable Vehicle Assets		16. Other Non-Liquid Assets	
ADULT																					
AFDC																					
FS																					
MA																					

### CASE INFORMATION - AFDC/ADULT

17. Monthly Payment Standard		18. Sample Month's Payment		19. Restricted Payment Status		20. Unborn Child		21. Shelter Arrangement		22. Gross Countable Income		23. Work Related Expenses		24. Child or Dependent Care Disregard		25. First \$30 and 1/3 of Remainder		26. Net Countable Income	

### CASE INFORMATION - FOOD STAMP

**I-4**

IV. TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME, BY HOUSEHOLD MEMBER AND TYPE AND AMOUNT OF INCOME

Form **SSA-4357** (10-85)  
Form **HCFA-301** (10-85)  
Form **FNS-380-1** (10-85)

REVIEW NUMBER	(For Optional State Use)

### V. ELIGIBILITY REVIEW INFORMATION - MEDICAID

62. Eligibility Coverage Codes		63. Initial Case Eligibility Status	64. Initial Case Liability Error	65. Amount of Excess Resources
Agency	OC			

### VI. DETAILED ERROR FINDINGS

66. Program Identification	67. Error Finding		68. Case Members with Errors (MAI)	69. Element	70. Nature Code	71. Agency or Client	72. Dollar Amount	73. Discovery	74. Verification	75. Occurrence	
										Date	Time Period

76. Ineligible Persons with Federal Matching (AFDC Overpayment Case)

Counted	Not Counted

1-5





## **APPENDIX J**

### **PREVIOUS REPORTS IN THIS SERIES**

Appendix J--Previous reports in this series

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, Summer 1988. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis and Evaluation; 1990.

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, Winter 1988. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis and Evaluation; 1990.

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, Summer 1987. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis and Evaluation; 1990.

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, Summer 1986. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis and Evaluation; 1988.

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, Summer 1985. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis and Evaluation; 1987.

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, August 1984. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis and Evaluation.

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, February 1983. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis and Evaluation.

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, August 1982. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis and Evaluation.

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, August 1981. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis and Evaluation; 1984.

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, August 1980. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Policy, Planning, and Evaluation; 1981.

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, November 1979. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Policy, Planning, and Evaluation; 1981.

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, February 1978. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, 1980.

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, September 1976. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, 1977.

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, September 1975. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, 1976.